

Hafa Adai!

NMC seeks 'multiple' funding sources for new buildings. **PAGE 3**
MYPros concludes 90-day Yutu recovery mission. **PAGE 7**

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXIX, Issue No. 29

www.saipantribune.com

TUESDAY FEBRUARY 12, 2019

www.facebook.com/saipantribune

75¢

US Labor urged: Clarify CW law

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres wants the U.S. Department of Labor to clarify certain sections of U.S. Public Law 115-218—the Northern Mariana Islands U.S. Workforce Act of 2018—which outlines new requirements in applying for and processing of CNMI-Only Transitional Worker, or CW-1, permits.

Torres said his administration and the CNMI business sector have been diligent in their efforts to comply with the new requirements but they seek clarity on certain sections of the NMI U.S. Workforce Act.

"As we approach a new application cycle, I write to request additional clarification to ensure the application of this program is successful," said Torres in a letter to U.S. Labor Sec-

See US LABOR on Page 4

Hopwood bags 3 of 6 PSS awards

By ERWIN ENCINARES
erwin_encinaires@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Despite having lost its campus in Chalan Piao in the devastation of Super Typhoon Yutu, the Herbert G. Hopwood Middle School still managed to bag half of six Public School System awards that honor

See HOPWOOD on Page 4

Sex registry's constitutionality questioned

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A registered sex offender, whose adult girlfriend is currently pregnant, is questioning the constitutionality of the law that created the CNMI Sex

Offender Registry, as this prevents him from being around minors, including his own children.

Frank Kaneshi was convicted in 2011 of sex abuse of a minor in the second degree. He was sentenced

See SEX on Page 4

Negotiations hit snag as shutdown deadline approaches

SHUTDOWN DEADLINE:
FEBRUARY 15, 2019

By JONATHAN LEMIRE and ALAN FRAM
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON (AP)—As the

White House refused to rule out the possibility that the federal government may shut down again, negoti-

See NEGOTIATIONS on Page 4

INSIDE



WORLD

British Prime Minister Theresa May asks for more time to rework her Brexit deal.

PAGE 14



FOCUS

The next Trump-Kim summit will focus on North Korea's nuclear complex and US rewards.

PAGE 15



LIFE & STYLE

Women returned at the Grammys as female acts won album of the year and best new artist.

PAGE 17



SCAN ME WITH A COMPATIBLE QR READER TO KEEP UPDATED ON ALL THE LATEST NEWS.

GOT A NEWS TIP?

TEL: 235-6397 / 235-2440 FAX: 235-3740 EMAIL: editor@saipantribune.com

Local

NMI to host Customs conference

The CNMI Division of Customs is busy preparing to host a conference of the Oceania Customs Organisation in May, with members of the Secretariat, headed by Roy Lagolago, arriving on Saipan on Feb. 25. Lagolago and other OCO

Secretariat representatives will be on Saipan for a five-day pre-conference visit to check on the status of preparations for the organization's 21st conference.

Saipan was chosen to host this year's conference in last year's conference in Mel-

bourne, Australia. That was also when CNMI Customs director Jose C. Mafnas was elected OCO chair.

Lt. Gov. Arnold I. Palacios, who will then be the acting governor since Gov. Ralph DLG Torres will be attending

the National Governors Association's winter conference, is expected to meet with Lagolago and the other OCO Secretariat members.

The annual OCO conference is a gathering of 23 member countries composed of American Samoa, Australia, the CNMI, the Cook Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia,

Fiji, French Polynesia, Guam Kiribati, the Marshall Islands, Nauru, New Caledonia, New Zealand, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, the Solomon Islands, Timor Leste, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu, and Wallis and Futuna.

Mafnas said they are expecting about 70 delegates. They are also hoping that the

World Customs Organization Secretariat in Belgium would grace the occasion.

"We're trying to send invitation to the [WCO] Secretariat to join us. When we met with [Secretary General Kunio Mi-kuriya] in Melbourne, he already told us that he will make time to visit and join us," said Mafnas. (*Jon Perez*)

K

Happy Valentine's Day

ISLA CAFE

Thursday, February 14, 2019

Join us this Valentine's Day for Dinner at Isla Cafe. Our International Buffet features traditional carving station, seafood and bottomless beer, wine and sparkling wine.

Open from 6pm until 930pm, reservations are highly recommended. \$38 for adults/\$15 for children (4-11)*

*Resident discount applies with valid CNMI I.D.
For Reservations, please call 234-6601 Ext. 742/3

Like/Follow us on Leisure . Comfort . Kanoa .

K

Kanoa Resort
Saipan

TOYOTA

TOYOTA DREAM CAR ART CONTEST

Draw your dream, Drive the future.

Toyota Dream Car Art Contest invites children from all corners of the globe to share ideas about the future of mobility by drawing their dream cars.

ENTRY PERIOD
Deadline February 16, 2019

CONTEST THEME
Your Dream Car

AGE CATEGORIES
Under 8 years old
8 - 11 years old
12 - 15 years old

THE WORLD CONTEST
• Award: Gold, Silver, Bronze, Finalist, Special award.
• Prize: Gold, Silver, Bonze, Special award winners*
- Invitation to the award ceremony trip to Japan in August 2019.

INQUIRIES
Atkins Kroll
Administration Office of Toyota Dream Car Art Contest
Phone number: (671) 649-6410
E-mail address: athena.ramos@akguam.com



Atkins Kroll (Saipan), Inc.
#1 Chalan Msr Guerrero San Jose
Saipan, MP 96950

HERE FOR SAIPAN. HERE FOR LIFE.

Call 234-5911

Showroom Hours: Monday to Saturday 8am to 5 pm

Browse our online showroom - Visit: www.AKsaipan.com



**Let's
Go
Places**

NMC seeks ‘multiple’ funding sources for new buildings

By ERWIN ENCINARES
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

With many of its buildings in ruins after the destruction of Super Typhoon Yutu in October last year, the Northern Marianas College is on the hunt for funds to rebuild.

Since last week, NMC officials have been in and out of talks with several funding sources as they begin looking for funds to finance new typhoon-resistant buildings, said interim president Frankie Eliptico.

He noted last week that it is still premature to estimate how long the college would be using the temporary classrooms that have been built for

it by the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

Still, this early, the CNMI’s lone community college is in talks with the U.S. Department of Agriculture about tapping it for funds.

“We are pursuing different funding options for the construction of permanent structures,” Eliptico said.

According to him, FEMA was able to provide a total of 24 temporary classrooms for their As Terlaje campus on Saipan—19 in the southern area and five in the northern area.

“The construction of permanent structures is not going to be quick,” Eliptico said, noting that a “quicker” way of getting classes out of the

temporary classrooms would to merely put back the roofing that have been blown off the NMC buildings. However, once the next typhoon comes, it would yield the same result—nearly total devastation, he added.

“We are not going to [just replace the tins on the buildings] because [the next typhoon] may destroy it again and we would end up in the same situation,” he said. “We are really taking the time to make sure we do this efficiently, correctly, and right the first time. We would be building typhoon-resistant structures

that are modern and state-of-the-art facilities that accommodates not just NMC, but the community’s needs... [in the future].”

According to Eliptico, 22 out of NMC’s 27 buildings on the As Terlaje campus were damaged, while only two of their classrooms were spared by Super Typhoon Yutu.

Eliptico noted that the workforce demands on Saipan would play a major role in the construction of the new NMC buildings. He further noted that internal discussions on whether the college would be used as a

shelter are also ongoing.

“Those things take time. ... We are not dragging [the process out], but we are expediting as much as we can because it is important that...the construction of new facilities [happen as soon as possible],” he said.

NMC will move from their temporary campus at the Saipan Southern High School to their As Terlaje campus on Feb. 20, 2019. The move would also signify the continuation of its fall 2018 semester morning classes, while their fall 2018 hybrid classes resumed yesterday, Feb. 11.

Casino, cannabis amendment bills re-introduced

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Two pieces of legislation that would amend existing laws were re-introduced when the House of Representatives held its first regular session last Friday at the House chamber on Capital Hill.

Vice speaker Rep. Lorenzo I. Deleon Guerrero (R-Saipan) re-introduced House Bill 21-11 or the Commonwealth Casino Commission Amendment bill, while floor leader Rep. John Paul P. Sablan (R-Saipan) authored H.B. 21-13, which would make changes to Public Law 20-66 or the Taulamwaar Sensible CNMI Cannabis Act of 2018.

H.B. 21-11 and 21-13 were identical to the two bills that were introduced by former representative Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero in the 20th Legislature as H.B. 20-82 and H.B. 20-196.

H.B. 20-86 passed the House and went to the Senate where they made some changes to include the concerns of the CNMI Office of the Attorney General. The Senate sent it back to the House where it failed to gain the three-fourths vote that’s required in a lame-duck legislature.

CCC executive director Edward Deleon Guerrero, who attended last Friday’s session with CCC chair Juan M. Sablan and commissioner Ramon M. Dela Cruz, said that H.B. 20-82 was discussed and

reviewed both by the House and Senate gaming committees in the previous Legislature but it failed to pass the final hurdle. Now they hope it would finally move forward.

“That’s the reason why we’re here. It has been assigned to the [House] Gaming Committee and we will be going before chair [Rep. Ralph] Yumul and we will be presenting our position. It is our effort, as the regulatory body created by P.L. 18-56, to regulate the new casino industry,” Deleon Guerrero told *Saipan Tribune*.

“Since Day 1 when we took over, we recognized that some of the provisions [in P.L. 18-56] needed to be clarified and tightened up. So, this is part of the clarification issues: it will enable the CCC to be autonomous, be a [law] enforcement agency, and would address certain issues that I think would be for the betterment of the [CNMI].”

Former representative Joseph Deleon Guerrero also introduced H.B. 20-196 but it failed to move forward. This time, Rep. J.P. Sablan re-introduced the same bill.

The CNMI Cannabis Commission is waiting for the companion bill that would address the provisions line-items vetoed by Gov. Ralph DLG Torres when he signed into law PL. 20-66. The commission is trying to get organized so they could formulate the implementing rules that would regulate the new cannabis industry.

Endangered tree in Guam to be transplanted

HAGATNA, Guam (AP)—An endangered native tree on Guam will have to be transplanted to make way for a new military firing range.

The *Pacific Daily News* reports the *fadang* used to be the most abundant tree in the U.S. territory. But the University of Guam says damage from the Asian cycad scale and caterpillars depleted the tree’s numbers.

Firing range construction will require clearing 89 acres (36.018 hectares) of native

limestone forest and 110 acres (44.516 hectares) of disturbed limestone at Andersen Air Force Base.

Work to clear the forest is not expected to start for several months. Roadwork has already started.

The military awarded Black Construction Corp. a \$78-million contract for the live-fire training range complex in 2017. The firing range will support U.S. Marines who are moving to Guam from Okinawa, Japan.

Discover the iPhone XS.

Get yours by February 16 and take home a FREE Belkin wireless charger.



iPhone XS

64GB

\$299*

iPhone XS



UNLIMITED
4G LTE DATA

store.ite.net

Terms and conditions apply. Offer available until 02/16/2019 or while supplies last. Subject to credit check. Standard mobile conditions apply. See stores or visit www.ite.net for details.

EXPLORE
YOUR
WORLD



15 ex-workers of Dynasty seek \$3.4M in damages

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie.delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Fifteen former foreign workers of the defunct Tinian Dynasty Hotel & Casino are demanding damages totaling \$3.4 million.

The former Tinian Dynasty workers, through counsel Samuel I. Mok, submitted last Friday their statement of damages before the U.S. District Court for the NMI.

The former workers filed their statement of damages following Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona's order direct-

ing them to provide the court with the exact amount of damages they are seeking against the owner and management of the Dynasty.

The former workers' motion for a default judgment against Dynasty owner Hong Kong (Overseas) Investment Ltd. and its management, Mega Stars Overseas Ltd., has been set for this Thursday, Feb. 14.

In their statement of compensatory and punitive damages, each of the 15 former Dynasty employees seeks \$200,000 in punitive damages, for a total of \$3 million.

Each also demands compensatory damages for lost earnings and employee benefits in different amounts ranging from \$16,438 to \$48,230, for a total amount of \$442,461.

The 15 former employees are Eric F. Dona, Donny Rivera, Melinda Rivera, Chung-Liang Chiu, Shingo Kajiwara, Han Shao, Lorenzo Pacia III, Didith Pacia, Ming Yang Yuan, Chuan Hui Xu, Flordeliza F. Camiguina, Jovelyn F. Reyes, Richard Julio L. Reyes, Ernesto Y. Rivera, and Jose C. Cadion Jr.

Dona and co-plaintiffs re-

cently asked the court to enter a default judgment against HKE and Mega Stars.

Last August, U.S. District Court for the NMI designated judge Frances Tydingco-Gatewood adopted Magistrate Judge Heather L. Kennedy's recommendation to direct the clerk of court to enter a default judgment against HKE and Mega Stars.

In their lawsuit, Dona and co-plaintiffs alleged that HKE and Mega Stars lied to them that they were legally authorized to work despite the denial of their CW-1 petitions.

eration halted in March 2016, no more income could be generated since then.

Chan also informed the court that they could not afford to pay a private counsel in this case.

HOPWOOD

From Page 1

of them from Hopwood.

The only PSS awards that Hopwood failed to get was the CNMI Teacher of the Year, which was awarded to Roselle I. Carreon of Oleai Elementary School, plus the as-yet-to-be-announced winner of the CNMI State Librarian of the Year.

The CNMI Teacher Aide of the Year award was a tie with Grace Belyea of Garapan Elementary School.

Hopwood's Berbes also got the 2018 Instructor of the Year award last year, while Marjorie Kintol got the 2018 Counselor of the Year award.

The number of awards that have gone to Hopwood staff is a testament to the quality of education at the school, according to Education Commissioner Glenn Muñoz.

"If you have a supportive culture within the school, then your employees will tend to succeed. We have a strong administration [at Hopwood] that supports their teachers, students, and staff," Muñoz said. "In order to be successful, you as a leader needs to support them," referring to Hopwood principal Dr. Rizalina Liwag.

In a separate interview last week, Liwag said she is very happy that Hopwood has been receiving state-level awards for two years in a row now.

"We are very happy and very thankful to our teachers and staff because they do their best despite the challenges we face," she said.

Hopwood Middle School is set to move to a new temporary campus next to the Koblerville Elementary School this Feb. 20, 2019. The move also signifies the school's revision to a full-day schedule.

without due process of law.

He said it also provides that no state shall deprive any person of the equal protection of the law.

Banes said the statute at issue in this case "is subject to strict scrutiny, since it intrudes upon—indeed, it outright prohibits—the choices made by Kaneshi and his girlfriend concerning their family living arrangements—i.e. to live together with each other and her infant daughter, and now their new child as well."

Banes said it intrudes on the right of any sex offender to live in a family unit with any children, including his own.

Furthermore, he said, it also infringes on the rights of the spouses and domestic partners of any such offender to live in the family arrangements of his or her choice, in any case where children are a part of the family.

Banes cited several precedents to support his arguments.

He said there is no room for the court to tailor conditions of probation to the actual circumstances of the individual case, as may be necessary to protect minors.

"There is no consideration of whether family arrangement is involved now, or was involved at the time of the past offense," the lawyer said.

Banes said the residence prohibition of the statute therefore violates the due process, equal protections and privacy clauses of the CNMI Constitution, and the due process and equal protection clauses of the U.S. Constitution.

NEGOTIATIONS

From Page 1

tiators clashed over whether to limit the number of migrants authorities can detain, creating a new hurdle for a border security compromise Congress can accept.

With a Friday deadline approaching, the two sides remained separated over how much to spend on President Donald Trump's promised border wall. But rising to the fore on Sunday was a related dispute over curbing Immigration and Customs Enforcement, or ICE, the federal agency that Republicans see as an emblem of tough immigration policies and Democrats accuse of often going too far.

The fight over ICE deten-

tions goes to the core of each party's view on immigration. Republicans favor rigid enforcement of immigration laws and have little interest in easing them if Democrats refuse to fund the Mexican border wall. Democrats despise the proposed wall and, in return for border security funds, want to curb what they see as unnecessarily harsh enforcement by ICE.

People involved in the talks say Democrats have proposed limiting the number of immigrants here illegally who are caught inside the U.S.—not at the border—that the agency can detain. Republicans say they don't want that cap to apply to immigrants caught committing crimes, but Democrats do.

Democrats say they proposed their cap to force ICE

to concentrate its internal enforcement efforts on dangerous immigrants, not those who lack legal authority to be in the country but are productive and otherwise pose no threat. Democrats have proposed reducing the current number of beds ICE uses to detain immigrants here illegally from 40,520 to 35,520.

But within that limit, they've also proposed limiting to 16,500 the number for immigrants here illegally caught within the U.S., including criminals. Republicans want no caps on the number of immigrants who've committed crimes who can be held by ICE.

Trump used the dispute to cast Democrats as soft on criminals.

"I don't think the Dems on the Border Committee are be-

ing allowed by their leaders to make a deal. They are offering very little money for the desperately needed Border Wall & now, out of the blue, want a cap on convicted violent felons to be held in detention!" Trump tweeted Sunday.

Acting White House chief of staff Mick Mulvaney, in appearances on NBC's "Meet the Press" and "Fox News Sunday," said "you absolutely cannot" eliminate the possibility of another shutdown if a deal is not reached over the wall and other border matters. The White House had asked for \$5.7 billion, a figure rejected by the Democratic-controlled House, and the mood among bargainers has soured, according to people familiar with the negotiations not authorized to speak publicly about private talks.

constituents and I reiterate my offer to assist in this process," Torres added in his letter to Acosta.

Another section in P.L. 115-218 states that "in order to effectuate the requirements for a [TLC], U.S. [Labor] will make available a prevailing wage survey conducted by the CNMI for the wage determinations governing CW-1 petitions."

Torres said, since P.L. 115-218 was enacted six months ago, the CNMI has yet to receive the "regulatory language on the statistical standards or criteria required for an annualized survey of wages to conform with this provision."

"As wage levels and economic circumstances differ greatly between the CNMI and the territory of Guam, the creation of a CNMI-based survey is necessary to avoid economic harm to employers within our economy," said Torres.

"However, in the absence of regulations or guidance on the performance of this survey, I am concerned that the CNMI will have neither the resources nor the time to provide adequate findings before the application window

opens in April."

He said that the CNMI is also on the recovery after being hit by the destructive force of Super Typhoon Yutu, which impacted the local economy and workforce since available resources are limited.

"For these reasons, I ask for your assistance in providing additional clarification on the application of this provision and request your consideration in interpreting the prevailing wage requirements of the CW-1 program in a similar manner as the H1-B program, and allow the CNMI to utilize the 2016 prevailing wage survey findings for petitions filed for fiscal year 2020," said Torres.

"Providing the additional time and clarity on the production of this survey will allow U.S. [Labor] to make a reasoned and informed decision on filed petitions without doing unnecessary harm to the CNMI economy and its workers. I must stress that if the CNMI were to revert to using the mean of the wages of workers in Guam, businesses here will strain, and the employment of U.S. workers will be negatively impacted by this decision."

opens in April."

He said that the CNMI is also on the recovery after being hit by the destructive force of Super Typhoon Yutu, which impacted the local economy and workforce since available resources are limited.

"For these reasons, I ask for your assistance in providing additional clarification on the application of this provision and request your consideration in interpreting the prevailing wage requirements of the CW-1 program in a similar manner as the H1-B program, and allow the CNMI to utilize the 2016 prevailing wage survey findings for petitions filed for fiscal year 2020," said Torres.

"Providing the additional time and clarity on the production of this survey will allow U.S. [Labor] to make a reasoned and informed decision on filed petitions without doing unnecessary harm to the CNMI economy and its workers. I must stress that if the CNMI were to revert to using the mean of the wages of workers in Guam, businesses here will strain, and the employment of U.S. workers will be negatively impacted by this decision."

He said that the CNMI is also on the recovery after being hit by the destructive force of Super Typhoon Yutu, which impacted the local economy and workforce since available resources are limited.

"There is no consideration of whether family arrangement is involved now, or was involved at the time of the past offense," the lawyer said.

US LABOR

From Page 1

secretary R. Alexander Acosta, which was dated last Feb. 8.

One section, Section 3(a)(2)(A), (48 USC § 1806(d)(2)(A), states that CNMI employers will be required to seek temporary labor certification from the U.S. Labor secretary as a confirmation that there are not enough U.S. workers in the CNMI and that employment of a non-immigrant worker would not affect the wages of a similarly employed U.S. worker.

"As employers in the CNMI begin preparing to submit petitions for the CW-1 program, additional clarification on the procedure for requesting a [TLC] is necessary in order to comply with the law," said Torres in his letter to Acosta.

Press secretary Kevin Bautista told *Saipan Tribune* that the letter is a bit connected to the still-to-be released regulations by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services about the NMI U.S. Workforce Act of 2018.

USCIS is already delayed in releasing the new guidelines that was supposed to be sent

Kilili announces Lieto nomination to academy

Each year, members of the U.S. Congress are charged with nominating top candidates from their home state or territory, ensuring the best and the brightest are considered for admission to the nation's leading service academies. These schools are the U.S. Military Academy, the U.S. Naval Academy, the U.S. Air Force Academy, and the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy.

Nominations are based on factors such as academic achievements, extra-curricular activities, leadership skills, physical aptitude, character

and motivation. For school year 2019-2020, there is only one slot available for students from the Northern Mariana Islands at each academy.

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) announced his nomination of Wilgene C. Lieto II, a senior at Grace Christian Academy, to the U.S. Military Academy at West Point.

Lieto said he was initially shocked when he found out



Lieto

about the nomination. "It is an extremely humbling experience to receive something of this honor. I am thankful to Congressman Kilili for believing in me and my family for their support and all they have done for me. I hope I can make them all proud."

The Grace Christian Academy administration, staff/faculty and student body would like to congratulate Lieto for receiving this prestigious congressional nomination. (PR)

Liwag: Students, parents look forward to temporary campus

Both students of the Herbert G. Hopwood Middle School and their parents look forward to a new temporary campus, according to school principal Dr. Rizalina Liwag.

Citing the recent Hopwood Parent Teacher Students Association meeting, Liwag said that both students and parents alike are looking forward to the new temporary campus next to the Koblerville Elementary School.

"The [students] are very excited, the teachers are excited, and the parents are excited. Of course, this is something different [from where the students] used to be, but we are excited to have our own [campus] and

[revert back to] full-day sessions," Liwag said Friday.

She noted that there are additional after-school activities in store for the students.

"Everybody is looking forward to moving to the temporary campus this Feb. 19, 2019," she said.

Education Commissioner Glenn Muña reported during a Board of Education meeting last Wednesday that the 42 temporary classrooms are finally complete and all that remains is for the connection of utilities.

According to Liwag, some parents were concerned about how the Public School System would feed the students, since the

temporary campus lacks a cafeteria. Liwag noted that food would be delivered to the campus.

"We made an arrangement with our vendor and the Child Nutrition Program to make sure that breakfast, lunch, and snacks would be delivered to the classrooms," she noted.

Liwag further emphasized that the campus is fully equipped with 28 cubicles in their state-of-the art restrooms and air conditioning.

Once the students revert back to the full-day schedules, the regular times of 8:30am to 3:20pm, with breakfast starting at 7:45am, will be enforced. (Erwin Encinare)

WHAT ARE NEWBORN SCREENINGS?

Newborn screenings are a series of tests done on your baby before he/she leaves the hospital after birth.

All of these screenings are available at CHCC. Please ask your doctor or nurse, if your baby has had his/her Newborn Screenings done before going home.

These screenings check your baby for:

- Serious conditions
- Certain genetic & metabolic conditions
- Hearing loss
- Specific heart problems



Pulse Oximetry



Newborn Hearing Screening



Heel Stick

A baby born with one of these conditions may not show any symptoms right away. However, the baby can develop serious problems if he/she is not treated. Newborn screenings help to diagnose these babies early so that treatment can begin as soon as possible.

For more information about Newborn Screenings, please call the Early Hearing Detection & Intervention program: (670) 236-8709



Northern Marianas College Fall 2018 & Spring 2019

Updated February 4, 2019 CALENDAR

Fall 2018 (Online, Hybrid)

Accelerated (Additional minutes added to each course session)

Dates (Mon-Sat)	Adjusted Schedule
Feb. 11 - 16, 2019	Week One - First Week of Instruction
Feb. 18, 2019	Holiday - President's Day
Feb. 19 - Mar. 9, 2019	Weeks Two to Four
Mar. 11 - 16, 2019	Week Five - Last Week of Instruction
Mar. 18 - 23, 2019	Final Exam Week
Mar. 25, 2019	Holiday - Commonwealth Covenant Day
Mar. 26 - 27, 2019	Grades Due

Spring 2019

NMC As Terlaje Campus

Accelerated (Additional minutes added to each course session)

Dates	Adjusted Schedule
Feb. 11 - 16, 2019	Early Academic Advising / Priority Registration for Spring 2019 Anticipated Graduates
Feb. 19 - Mar 23, 2019	Registration for All Students
Mar 28 - 30, 2019	Late Advising & Registration
Apr. 01 - 06, 2019	Week One - First Week of Instruction
Apr. 08 - 20, 2019	Weeks Two and Three
Apr. 18 - 20, 2019	Spring Break
Apr. 22 - June 08, 2019	Weeks Four to Ten
May 27, 2019	Holiday - Memorial Day
June 10 - 15, 2019	Week Eleven - Last Week of Instruction
June 17 - 22, 2019	Final Exam Week
June 24, 2019	Grades Due for Graduating Students
June 25 - 26, 2019	Grades Due for All Students
June 29, 2019	NMC Commencement Ceremony

Fall 2018 (Morning, or "AM")

NMC As Terlaje Campus

Accelerated (Additional minutes added to each course session)

Dates (Mon-Sat)	Adjusted Schedule
Feb. 20 - 23, 2019	Week One - First Week of Instruction
Feb. 25 - Mar. 9, 2019	Weeks Two to Three
Mar. 11 - 16, 2019	Week Four - Last Week of Instruction
Mar. 18 - 23, 2019	Final Exam Week
Mar. 25, 2019	Holiday - Commonwealth Covenant Day
Mar. 26 - 27, 2019	Grades Due

PLEASE NOTE: The Academic Calendars and Course Schedules are subject to change, depending on availability of space and other factors. Every possible effort will be made to ensure communication of information to all students and other stakeholders.

MLSC partners with LDTF to aid manhoben center



The members of the Micronesian Legal Services Corp., the Lady Diann Torres Foundation, the Bank of Federated States of Micronesia, and the Youth Affairs Office pose for a photo following the donation last Wednesday.

KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Micronesian Legal Services Corp. is partnering with the Lady Diann Torres Foundation to help the Chalan Kanoa Manhoben (Youth) Center.

According to Krissta Kirschenheiter, MLSC staff attorney and pro bono coordinator, the Bank of the Federated States of Micronesia donated \$5,000 to the MLSC to conduct recovery operations following the onslaught of Super Typhoon Yutu.

"They just heard about some of the work we were doing.

We've been really actively involved in the VOAD [Voluntary Organizations Active In Disaster]...and we've also actively been in the disaster relief center and providing legal education there and taking on clients with [Federal Emergency Management Agency] appeals. They knew that our organization was involved in recovery efforts and they wanted to ask us if we could help do the specific relief effort," she said.

Kirschenheiter said the MLSC and the Lady Diann Torres Foundation partnered together to assist the youth

center in CK "because they already have children coming in and they need services. They already have ukulele classes and they're talking about doing different types of family activities and so we wanted to be able to partner together and provide these services to the community, starting with the CK community."

The MLSC and the LDTF want to address the damage the center sustained from Yutu as well as address the legal education needed by the families of the children in the center regarding FEMA appeals.

"The MLSC is going to be

doing community education and classes in connection with typhoon recovery like probate classes or any sort of legal education the community might need in connection with recovery," she said.

Kirschenheiter said this is the first collaboration that MLSC has done with the LDTF.

James Selepeo, Chalan Kanoa Youth center manager, said that their first project would be a community event for the families of CK that would help identify which families need recovery assistance.

The data would then serve as a means to start providing aid.

NMC resumes fall semester

The Northern Marianas College will be resuming its fall 2018 morning or "AM" classes on Feb. 20, 2019, at its As Terlaje campus. The college's fall 2018 online and hybrid classes started as scheduled on Feb. 11, 2019. The calendar for the remainder of the semester is:

Fall semester dates for online and hybrid courses

- Feb. 11 - 16, 2019: Week 1
- Feb. 19 - Mar. 9, 2019: Weeks 2 to 4
- Mar. 11 - 16, 2019: Week 5; last week of instruction
- Mar. 18 - 23, 2019: Final exam week

Fall semester dates for morning or 'AM' classes

- Feb. 20 - 23, 2019: Week 1 - first week of instruction
- Feb. 25 - Mar. 9, 2019: Weeks 2 to 3
- Mar. 11 - 16, 2019: Week 4 - last week of instruction
- Mar. 18 - 23, 2019: Final exam week
- Mar. 26 - 27, 2019: Grades due

Spring 2019 registration

- Feb. 11 - 16, 2019: Early academic advising/ registration for graduating students
 - Feb. 19 - Mar. 23, 2019: Registration for all students (new, returning, ongoing)
 - Mar. 28 - 30, 2019: Late advising and registration
 - Apr. 01 - 06, 2019: Week 1 - First week of instruction
- These dates, including the start date for the spring 2019 semester, may change due to unanticipated events or factors. NMC will announce any changes through email, website, social media, and other news outlets.

NMC staff members will continue to be available to provide assistance to students as they make the transition back to the As Terlaje campus. For additional information, call 237-6732 or visit marianas.edu. (PR)

HEALTH PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION

Registered Nurse: (03)

- Must pass NCLEX with current CNMI RN License
- Must hold a degree of Bachelor of Science in nursing
- At least three to six years' experience
- English language skills-proficient in spoken, written and comprehension
- Certification in Basic Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation

Medical Records and Health Information Technician: (01)

- At least over six years experience in medical billing, electronic health records and practice partner record
- Must be familiar with medical terminology, ICD 9, coding of medical procedures and diagnosis
- College graduate
- English language skills-proficient in spoken, written and comprehension
- Must be certified pharmacy technician
- Must be proficient in computer skills, spreadsheet and general accounting skills.

Health Technologist and Technician: (02)

- At least six years experience or related field
- Must hold a Bachelor of Science in Radiology Technology
- Must be over six years experience in electronic health and practice partner records
- Experience/knowledge with practice partner software in electronic health records usage
- Licensed by Medical Professional Licensing Board, CNMI

Groundskeeping Worker/General Yard Maintenance: (01)

- At least two years preferred skills and experience
- Experience in assisting in building construction/renovation
- Maintaining the interior and exterior of the clinic in a neat and orderly condition
- Maintaining of plants in transplanting and fertilizing
- Assist in cleaning of clinic air conditionings
- Be flexible in assisting in other related maintenance duties
- Be flexible with time schedule

Computer System Analysts: (01)

- Minimum of three to five years of work related skills, knowledge or experience
- Bachelor's degree or equivalent
- Maintains specialized computer programs relating to health care operations (medical billing, patient records, scheduler)
- Maintain all of company computer systems to include computer hardware, software, computer network and advance server skills
- Oversees medical billing department utilizing specialized computer software
- Oversees administrative areas and designs, develops and maintains a paperless computer system
- Building maintenance repair, electronic records and prescription with meaningful use in compliance with Medicare and Medicaid standards
- Performs such other duties as may be assigned

Interested applicants must submit resume or pick up application at Saipan Health Clinic in Chalan Kiya, Saipan. Deadline to submit application or resume will be on February 18, 2019 at 4:00 p.m. For more information, please call 234-2901 ext. 128.

ST. JUDE RENAL CARE FACILITY, INC.

Registered Nurses: (09)

- Must pass NCLEX-RN with current CNMI RN License
- Attended a hemodialysis training program
- Must hold a Bachelor of Science in Nursing
- One to two years hemodialysis experience or related field
- English language skills-proficient in verbal, written and comprehension
- Certification in Basic Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation
- In-service training with Baxter Phoenix machine
- Experience with Ameriwater bicarbonate distribution system

Health Technologists and Technicians: (4)

- Certificate from Junior College/Technician School in healthcare related field
- Attended a hemodialysis training program
- Three years hemodialysis experienced-preferred
- English language skills-proficient in spoken, written and comprehension
- Certification in Basic Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation
- Flexible with time schedule

Maintenance Worker, Machinery: (02)

- Must be able to perform task which may at first glance not appear difficult but required a high degree of knowledge and experience to properly operate and maintain system
- Operational knowledge of mechanical, electrical and plumbing systems
- Knowledge of the theory fluid dynamics
- Understand the mathematical relationships and common formulas of basic water treatment and distribution systems
- Know the specific operations of the water treatment distribution systems unique to a dialysis unit
- Be familiar with infection control of hemodialysis facilities, safety & life safety policies
- Pass the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency text for certified water treatment and distribution operators level II
- Understand the plumbing code and plumbing techniques
- Be able to demonstrate safe working techniques, proper plumbing techniques when working with pressure vessels
- Be able to demonstrate proper plumbing techniques especially when working with pvc
- To accept and perform all other duties as may be assigned

Maintenance and Repair: (04)

- Performs a variety of preventive maintenance and repair tasks on the facilities equipment, including some of the more complex repair tasks
- Performs preventive maintenance and makes routine repairs to electrical, plumbing and security systems
- Performs rough and finish carpentry work and takes the lead on projects such as building and paneling walls and partitions
- Installs solar panels with experience in the maintenance of pv models
- Maintains and repairs various equipment
- High school graduate or equivalent

Janitors and Cleaners: (02)

- Operates various mechanized cleaning equipment, such as vacuums, buffers, etc.
- Maintain facility in a sanitary and infection-free condition through washing, cleaning and replacement of equipment and furnishings
- Requires working in damp, dusty and dirty areas. Must clean up human waste and other body fluids, as required
- Responsible for disposal of trash, waste and other disposable materials'
- Must handle various cleaning solvents and chemicals that is required by Medicare
- Damp dust furniture, light fixtures, windows, etc.
- Empty trash containers daily
- Clean and mop bathrooms daily. Mop all corridor floors, lobby and others floors daily
- Report any needed repairs immediately
- Check entire area for spills, water, etc., periodically, especially in patients' areas and lobby
- Use safety precautions in all housekeeping and post occupancy
- Is required to maintain and clean in an orderly manner at the business office, Dr.'s office, accounting office, dietitian and clinic manager's office
- Must be able to work flexible hours
- Must have own transportation

Interested applicant must submit resume or pick up application at St. Jude Renal Care Facility Inc. in Chalan Kiya, Saipan. Deadline to submit application will be on February 18, 2019 at 4:00 p.m. For more information, please call 234-2901 ext. 128.

MYPros concludes 90-day Yutu recovery mission



KIMBERLY BAUTISTA

Members of the Marianas Young Professionals and volunteers pose for a photo following the completion of the organization's 90-day Super Typhoon Yutu recovery mission last Saturday.

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

An organization of young professionals in the CNMI, the Marianas Young Professionals, concluded its 90-day Super Typhoon Yutu immediate recovery mission last Saturday.

According to MYPros executive director G Van Gils, the organization wants to now transition into beautifying the island.

"This, what you're seeing, is the end phase of our recovery mission. The Marianas Young Professionals wanted to conduct a 90-day recovery mission after Super Typhoon Yutu and to wrap up our mission of feeding, sheltering, and cleaning up our island. We want to continue with the work of beautifying our island," he said.

Last Saturday, three artists and a number of children gathered at the MYPros Recovery Center in Dandan to paint murals along the center's walls to signify hope after Yutu.

The artists were Peter Al-dan, Kimberly Mendiola, and Yolani Camacho.

Van Gils said that MYPros now wants to focus on beautification and art because both instances offer emotional support after a traumatic experience like Yutu.

"How we feel determines our happiness, it determines how successful we are in the recovery process, how we manage stress is very important to the recovery. Since the very beginning, we had art projects here that typhoon survivors could participate in. We've also had music. We had

NI experiences 4th quake in two weeks

The Northern Islands was shaken by another earthquake of 4.5 magnitude last Sunday—the fourth earthquake reported in the Northern Islands in the last two weeks.

According to the CNMI Emergency Operations Center State Warning point, at 2:24pm Sunday, a 4.5-magnitude earthquake occurred 162 kilometers west northwest of Farallon de Pajaros. (*Kimberly A. Bautista*)

the Friends of the Arts here to provide music, and we want to continue this community engagement in both arts and music and we're going to do other educational initiatives as well," he said.

Now that immediate recovery has been completed, Van Gils said the organization would also focus on their own financial recovery in order to ensure preparedness in case another disaster devastates the Commonwealth.

"We spent more than we fundraised and we will continue to fundraise for Super Typhoon Yutu recovery. ... We did so much work but we spent a lot of money and we're going to be fundraising over the next year as we all continue to recover. So we recover physically, by cleaning our home up, we recover emotionally by paying attention to the arts and our own feelings and developing a bond with the community, and we all now have to recover financially," he said.

During its 90-day recovery mission, MYPros was able to feed over 70,000 people hot meals in partnership with the CNMI government, distributed emotional and therapeutic toys and relief aids through the Public School System, provided hygiene and cleaning supplies to shelters, cleared beaches, chainsawed trees in private areas, provided food, water, and shelter to Yutu victims, and partnered with organizations like Karidat Social Services, the Salvation Army, and the American Red Cross-NMI Chapter on other Yutu recovery efforts.

There were no reports of personnel injuries or damage to infrastructure and no tsunami warnings or advisories were issued by the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center.

According to a previous article on the *Saipan Tribune*, the Marianas, being a part of the Pacific Ring of Fire, is prone to experience tremors because of the amount of activity in the area. (*Kimberly A. Bautista*)

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF THE PUBLIC DRAFT INTEGRATED NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR JOINT REGION MARIANAS-ADMINISTERED AND LEASED LANDS ON GUAM, TINIAN, AND FARALLON DE MEDINILLA AND THE PUBLIC DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FOR THE INTEGRATED NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR JOINT REGION MARIANAS-ADMINISTERED AND LEASED LANDS ON GUAM, TINIAN, AND FARALLON DE MEDINILLA

Pursuant to the Council on Environmental Quality regulations (40 Code of Federal Regulations Parts 1500-1508) implementing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the United States (U.S.) Department of Navy (DON) gives notice that a Draft Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan (INRMP) for Joint Region Marianas (JRM)-administered and leased lands on Guam, Tinian, and Farallon the Medinilla has been prepared and is available for public review and comment. In addition, a Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) has been prepared for the proposed JRM INRMP and is available as an appendix to the INRMP for public review and comment.

The purpose of the 2019 JRM INRMP is to revise management of natural resources on JRM-administered and leased lands as described in the 2013 JRM INRMP to include species listed under the Endangered Species Act since 2013 and to implement an approach for natural resources management that is consistent with the Sikes Act, as amended (16 U.S. Code [USC] 670a), and the most recent Department of Defense (DoD) and DON policy and guidance regarding INRMPs. Both the INRMP and the natural resources management programs must include a management approach consistent with mission support (as defined in 10 USC section 5062), multipurpose use, integration, ecosystem- or landscape-level management, and environmental compliance and stewardship objectives.

The Public Draft EA evaluates the potential environmental impacts on topography, geology, and soils; water resources; cultural resources; terrestrial biological resources; marine biological resources; land use; submerged land use; socioeconomic; and environmental justice associated with implementing the Proposed Action and the No Action Alternative.

- The Proposed Action is to implement the 2019 JRM INRMP. This alternative represents an update to management of resources found on JRM-administered and leased lands with the intent to provide a conservation benefit to existing and recently federally listed species.
- Under the No Action Alternative, the Proposed Action would not occur, natural resources would continue to be managed as characterized in the 2013 JRM INRMP, and JRM would continue to implement applicable regulatory requirements. This alternative represents the status quo and is used to analyze the consequences of not undertaking the Proposed Action. The No Action Alternative would not meet the purpose of and need for the Proposed Action; however, as required by NEPA, the No Action Alternative is carried forward for analysis in this EA.

The public is invited and encouraged to participate in the NEPA process by reviewing and commenting on the public drafts of the JRM INRMP and INRMP EA during the 30-day public comment period from 15 February 2019 to 16 March 2019. Comments on the public drafts of the JRM INRMP and INRMP EA must be received by 16 March 2019 to be considered in the final drafts of each.

The public drafts of the JRM INRMP and INRMP EA will be available for public comment and may be reviewed by interested parties at the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library, Insatto Street, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI); Tinian Public Library, San Jose, Tinian, CNMI; as well as on the internet at www.jrminrmp.com.

The DON had previously provided a 30-day public review period for the residents of Guam from 14 November 2018 to 13 December 2018.

Written comments may be submitted to:

Naval Facilities Engineering Command Marianas
Attn: EV2, Conservation and Planning
PSC 455, Box 211
FPO AP 96540-1000
Email: w-gu-navfac-ev2-gs@fe.navy.mil

Final sweep for Yutu debris

By ERWIN ENCINARES
erwin_encinaires@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The task force tackling Super Typhoon Yutu-related debris released over the weekend their final pickup schedules per village as the deadline to bring the debris out to the curbside expired last Sunday.

The task force—consisting of government agencies such as the Bureau of Environmen-

tal and Coastal Quality, the Saipan Mayor's Office, the Department of Public Works, and the Federal Emergency Management Agency—noted last Friday that the pickup of Yutu-related debris would last from Feb. 10, 2019, up to Feb. 24, 2019.

According to Division of Environmental Quality's Ray Masga, the debris pickup would take a day per village.

Starting yesterday, the task force was scheduled to tackle Koblerville.

Today, Feb. 12, is designated for the San Antonio and Afetna areas; Feb. 13 is for Chalan Kanoa; Feb. 14, for Susupe; Feb. 15, for San Jose; Feb. 16, for Dandan; Feb. 18, for San Vicente; Feb. 19, for Kagman; and Feb. 20, to Feb. 21, for the Quartermaster Road heading north.

"After this, we would be going back to the As Lito and Finañasisu areas," Masga told *Saipan Tribune*. "That is the final fork for all of these village areas on these dates. After that, there will be no more...DPW and the Saipan Mayor's Office's crew to pick up anything."

"This is the final...sweep for these villages," he added. "After Feb. 24, 2019, homeowners



Division of Environmental Quality administrator Ray Masga, left, discusses routes for the debris pickup with Saipan Mayor's Office field operations director Joann Aquino, right, as Federal Emergency Management Agency representative Dan Markey listens.

ERWIN ENCINARES

are fully responsible for their [Yutu]-related debris."

Masga noted that only typhoon-related debris would be picked up—not household trash.

This was also emphasized by Joann Aquino, the Saipan Mayor's Office field operations director. "It has to be typhoon-related debris," she said.

Homeowners who wish to have their typhoon debris picked up by the task force are encouraged to segregate them into separate piles for vegeta-

tive debris such as plants, trees, logs, and leaves; construction debris such as lumber, drywall, plywood, concrete, plumbing, carpet, furniture, broken windows, and mattresses; or metal debris such as tin and metals for roofing.

Dan Markey, the Federal Emergency Management Agency representative on the task force, emphasized that helping one another is crucial to the smooth operation of the debris collection. Markey is also the debris task force lead.

PSS operations unaffected by DOF funding delays

By ERWIN ENCINARES
erwin_encinaires@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Public School System noted last week that they had recently been experiencing funding transmittal delays from the Department of Finance. However, it assured the Board of Education that the delays are not affecting operations.

Education Commissioner Glenn Muña reported during the board's meeting last week that there had been delays with the transmittal of funds from the central government since last year, but these incidents have had no effect on operations.

"Whenever there is a delay you have to revisit your priorities, but...we have been working with the Department of Finance Secretary Larissa Larson to transfer [funds] and she has been very supportive so far," Muña said in an interview last week. "We are very thankful for that."

PSS was appropriated \$42.8 million for operations in fiscal year 2019. However, they reported to the BOE that they just recently got funding that was supposedly for the first two weeks of December 2018. PSS further reported that they are currently a-month-and-a-half behind in funding transmittals despite a twice-a-month transmittal structure.

While Muña noted that Larson did not provide a reason for the delays, he suspects Su-

per Typhoon Yutu to have played a role since the airport was shut down for over a month, effectively putting to a complete halt the tourism industry of the CNMI's main source of revenue.

"Before the typhoon, they were on time," Muña noted.

Super Typhoon Yutu hit the CNMI in late October 2018.

According to Muña, he also took into consideration that both the central government and PSS had immediate expenditures to fund, such as Super Typhoon Yutu recovery efforts and shelter activations throughout Saipan and Tinian.

"We are working closely with the secretary of Finance and we are thankful for that great working relationship," he said.

BOE chair Janice Tenorio said in a separate interview that she has faith in Muña to address the situation and avert the loss of salaries for PSS employees and services for the community. She clarified later that PSS is still good despite the delays and that the threat of delayed salaries isn't urgent.

"We have been in constant communication with Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, who is in full support of having...money moved as needed," said Tenorio. She further noted that she, former chair BOE Marylou Ada, Muña, and Larson had been in communication with Torres about the delays.

Lola Guerrero wins SCS Geography Bee

Lola Guerrero, a 5th grade student at Saipan Community School, won the school competition of the National Geographic Bee on Jan. 25 and a chance at a college scholarship.

The school Bee, at which students answered questions on geography, was the first round in the 31st annual National Geographic Bee, a geography competition designed to inspire and reward students' curiosity about the world. In the SCS school competition of the National Geographic Bee were 10 students competing who won their classroom Geography Bee Rounds including:

- 4th Graders: Jennifer Kim and Enzo Choi
- 5th Graders: Lola Guerrero and Soarin Oh
- 6th Graders: Sophia

Brasuell and Dwight Crisostomo

- 7th Graders: Olivia Hwang and Martin Park
- 8th Graders: Jesse Sablan and Seo Young Baek

Students in grades four through eight from nearly 10,000 schools across the United States will compete in the 2019 National Geographic GeoBee for a chance to win college scholarships and the glory of being the National Geographic GeoBee champion. The school champions, including Lola Guerrero, take a qualifying test; up to 100 of the top scorers on that test in each state will then be eligible to compete in their state/regional Bee on March 29, 2019.

School champions receive a medal and a certificate. Students who advance to the

state level compete for cash awards and other prizes.

National Geographic increased the prize money for all State GeoBees in 2019.

State champions will receive a medal, \$1,000 in cash, and other prizes, as well as a trip to Washington, D.C., to compete in the National Championship.

The second- and third-place students at State GeoBees will also receive cash awards of \$300 and \$100, respectively.

Each state champion will advance to the national championship and compete for cash awards and college scholarships.

In 2019, the national cham-

pion will receive a \$25,000 college scholarship, \$1,000 in cash, a lifetime membership in the National Geographic Society, and a trip to the Galápagos Islands;

second place will receive at \$10,000 college scholarship and \$1,000 in cash; third place will receive a \$5,000 college scholarship and \$1,000 in cash; and seven runners-up will receive \$1,000 in cash each.

Everyone can test their geography knowledge with the exciting Geo Bee Quiz, an online geography quiz at www.nationalgeographic.org/bee/study/quiz, which poses 10 new questions a day and with the National Geographic Geo Quiz Alexa skill, which releases six new questions a day. (PR)



Guerrero



MathCourt Knights and their coaches shone in the recently held CNMI MathCourt competition.

MCS congratulates math whizzes

Mount Carmel School congratulates her MathCourt Knights and their coaches for shining in the recently held CNMI MathCourt competition:

- 1st Grade: 1st place, Von Lauron
- 1st Grade: 3rd place, Kathleen B. Cano
- 3rd Grade: 1st place, Do Geon Kim
- 3rd Grade: 2nd place,

Remiegem Melchor

- 6th Grade: 1st place, Nathaniel Clark
- 7th Grade: 4th place, Paul Angelo Santos
- 10th Grade: 4th place, Victoria Nicole M. Santos
- 11th Grade: 5th place, Haesu Yeo
- 12th Grade: 1st place, Suwan Bae

Qualifiers to State Round:

- Do Geon Kim
- Kathleen B. Cano
- Remiegem Melchor
- Von Lauron
- Qualifiers to State Round
- Chaeun Kim
- Juncheol Hwang
- Lexi Marie Lansangan
- Nathaniel Clark
- Oscar Bien R. Buenaflo
- William Cano
- Qualifiers to State Round
- Eunkyu Hong

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

■ IG Kamiya Nicole Obnimaga

- Paul Santos
- Haesu Yeo
- Jan Matthew Millo
- Jehyuk Jung
- Minju Kang
- Richard Villagomez
- Seung Bin Bae
- Suhwan Bae
- Victoria Ancheta
- Victoria Nicole Santos
- YuJeoung Son

Coaches: Zyon Castillo and HeJin Lee (PR)

 COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Notice to all weightlifting athletes

To all persons interested in competing in international weightlifting competitions, CNMI Weightlifting has recently become a member of the International Weightlifting Federation. A meeting to discuss the benefits and requirements of IWF will be held tomorrow, Feb. 13, 2019, starting at 6:30pm at the NMPASI conference room.

In order to meet certain deadlines set by IWF, current and prospective weightlifters should attend this meeting and bring with them a copy of their passport and a photo (face of athlete only). Registration forms can be obtained in advance from Jeanne Rayphand at jeanneesq@yahoo.com. Registration forms will also be available for completion at the meeting.

For more information, contact John Davis by email at [\(PR\)](mailto:johnhdavisjr@gmail.com)

SSHS returns to full-day schedule

This is to inform all parents and legal guardians that Saipan Southern High School returned to full-day schedule starting yesterday, Feb. 11, 2019. Should there be any questions, call the school at 664-4000 or 783-8988. (PR)

FOA membership meeting

To all members and friends of Friends of the Arts, come and join us for a special Valentine's Day occasion this Thursday, Feb. 14, at the Everest Kitchen Restaurant. Come and enjoy

a delicious Nepalese dinner and musical entertainment by the Marianas High School Glee Club and the Community Choir, plus a special magic show by Neil Fama.

Meet the FOA board and members. The dinner cost is \$15 for adults and \$10 for children under 11. The Everest Kitchen is located on Micro Beach Road between the hospital corner light and the Beach Road fire station corner, next to the Bridge Capital office. Please join us at 6:30pm.

You do not have to be a member of Friends of the Arts to join us for this special evening. Please make a reservation by contacting Frank Gibson by e-mail at flgibson@yahoo.com or by phone or text

at 287-7476. (PR)

High risk of rip currents until Wednesday

Based on the information received from the National Weather Service in Tiyan, Guam, and compiled at the CNMI Emergency Operations Center State Warning Point, a large trade-wind swell will continue to produce a high risk of rip currents along east facing reefs through the middle of next week. That means a high risk of rip currents on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota through Wednesday night. Along east facing reefs, breaking surf of 7 to 9 feet will maintain a high risk of rip currents through at least Wednesday night.

The public is being advised to avoid venturing near reefs and beaches, especially those facing east. Strong rip currents will be life threatening. If you become caught in a rip current, remain calm, swim parallel to shore, then back toward the beach when possible. heed the advice of lifeguards, beach patrol flags, and signs. (PR)

State Warning Point at 237-8000. (PR)

Military to conduct trainings

ASAN, Guam—The U.S. Marine Corps and Air Force will conduct training at Farallon de Medinilla during the following dates and times:

- 7am to 9:30pm, Feb. 12-14
- 11:30am to 6:45pm, Feb. 15

Helicopter Sea Combat

Squadron 25 will conduct training from 6-11:45pm Feb. 12 at the former Adm. Nimitz Golf Course in Barrigada.

The Air Force will also conduct training from 8am to 8pm on Feb. 13 at Warning Area 12 and Warning Area 517.

The open-ocean exercise will take place within a 10-nautical mile radius of the following coordinates: 13° 26'N/145° 08"E, 13° 42'N/144° 36"E.

It is recommended the public, commercial pilots, fishermen and marine tour operators stay clear from this area during the date and time indicated.

The general location of the training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla will be in a 12-nautical mile radius of the island. F

The public should be ad-

vised that routine helicopter training often accompanied with the use of blanks can occur during training at the former Adm. Nimitz Golf Course.

W-12 begins south of Guam and extends south-southwest in international waters. W-12 supports surface and aerial gunnery, missiles and laser exercises.

W-517 is activated south of latitude 12° 40' 00"N. Santa Rosa Reef and Galvez Banks will be open for public use. W-517 begins south of Guam and extends south-southwest in international waters.

These types of trainings are designed to enhance the readiness of military personnel. Residents in surrounding areas should not be alarmed if they see or hear increased activity associated with the training. (PR)


COURTESY MEETING

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and Lt. Gov. Arnold I. Palacios led key Executive Branch officials in yesterday morning's courtesy meeting with the CNMI Board of Education, led by chair Janice Marie A. Tenorio, and the Public School System, led by Education Commissioner Glenn Muña. They met about the recent government projection of a reduced gross budgetary resources for government earmarking by the next fiscal year.

PSS/OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONS LICENSING BOARD
P.O. Box 502078, Bldg., 1242 Pohnpei Court
Capitol Hill, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel No: (670) 664-4809 Fax: (670) 664-4814
Email: cnnibpl@cnibpl.net
Website: cnibpl.hcpbl.net

Pursuant to P.L. 8-41, Section 11, Governor Ralph DLG. Torres and Lt. Governor Arnold I. Palacios, through the Health Care Professions Licensing Board (HCPLB) are hereby giving notice that it will hold its regular monthly board meeting on **Wednesday, February 13, 2019 at 8 am** on Saipan. The meeting will be held at the CHCC Conference Room #2, Lower Navy Hill.

AGENDA

- I. Meeting Call to Order
- II. Determination of Quorum
- III. Review and Adoption of Agenda
- IV. Review and Adoption of Minutes (01/10/19)
- V. Public Comments
- VI. Chairperson's Report
- VII. Director's Report
 - HCPLB Case 17-01-02-03
 - Dr. Krum Renewal Application
 - Complaint 18-001
- VIII. Investigator's Report
- IX. Communications from the Governor's Office & Legislature
 - A. Governor's Office
 - B. Legislature
- X. Old Business
- XI. New Business
- XII. Pending Applications for Board's Review
 - A. New Applications
 - B. Renewal Applications
- XIII. Miscellaneous Business
- XIV. Executive Session: The Board may vote to meet in executive session to consult with Counsel on pending or anticipated legal matters.
- XV. Announcements
 - A. Next Meeting Date
 - B. Adjournment of Meeting

/s/ Theodore R. Parker, R.Ph., MPH
Chairman

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT**
**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
RFP NO.: RFP19-BECQ/DCRM-051**

SUBMISSION DATE: MARCH 06, 2019 TIME: 09:30 A.M.

**"DEVELOPMENT OF A LAOLAO BAY WATERSHED
MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE BUREAU OF
ENVIRONMENTAL AND COASTAL QUALITY,
DIVISION OF COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT"**

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENCION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

ALL QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS RFP **MUST** BE SUBMITTED VIA-EMAIL TO MR. DAVID BENEVENTE AT dbenavente@dcrm.gov.mp **NO LATER THAN THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS, FEBRUARY 22, 2019.**

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAIC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ ELI D. CABRERA
ADMINISTRATOR, BECQ

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, PROC. & SUPPLY

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT**
**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
RFP NO.: RFP19-OGM-049**

SUBMISSION DATE: MARCH 01, 2019 TIME: 10:00 A.M.

**"CNMI STATEWIDE COMPREHENSIVE
OUTDOOR RECREATION PLAN FOR THE
OFFICE OF GRANTS MANAGEMENT"**

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENCION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS RFP MUST BE SUBMITTED IN WRITING TO MR. EPIPHANIO E. CABRERA, JR., ADMINISTRATOR, VIA E-MAIL TO epi.cabrera@gov.mp **NO LATER THAN THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS 04:30 P.M., FEBRUARY 15, 2019.**

A PRE-PROPOSAL CONFERENCE IS SCHEDULED NO LATER THAN **10:00 A.M. LOCAL TIME, FEBRUARY 19, 2019** AT THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE CONFERENCE ROOM ON THE GROUND FLOOR OF THE HONORABLE JUAN A. SABLÁN MEMORIAL BUILDING IN CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAIC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ EPIPHANIO E. CABRERA, JR.
ADMINISTRATOR, OFFICE OF GRANTS

/S/ VIVIAN M. LIZAMA
ACTING DIRECTOR, P&S

Opinion

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXIX, Issue No. 29

Published daily at 2/F JP Center,
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP, 96950

Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR
jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com

Mark Rabago ASSOCIATE EDITOR
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com

MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

Measles surges again as it finds a weak spot: Anti-vax parents

If a disease were striking children, causing rash and fever and sometimes escalating to brain swelling, pneumonia and even death, there would be a public demand to do something about it.

America did, and measles was declared eradicated here in 2000.

Now the malady is back in Illinois and at least nine other states, with two cases in downstate Champaign and an alarming breakout in the Pacific Northwest, where the governor of Washington has declared a state of emergency.

Blame a stubbornly resistant anti-vaccine movement driven by dangerous pseudoscience and the worst impulses of obsessive overparenting. "I know what's best for my child!" anti-vax parents say, and measles spreads.

The World Health Organization warned Thursday of a dramatic rise in measles cases globally as parents reject vaccines for their children. In Europe, measles cases reached their highest level in a decade in 2018. Outbreaks have hit the Philippines and Madagascar. In a world of global travel, these aren't distant concerns. A monthslong series of cases in New York has been traced to an unvaccinated child who caught the disease on a trip to Israel.

Measles can cause lifelong effects including deafness. It is ugly, with its blotchy, fevered spots, some of which leave permanent scars. It's highly contagious and miserable to experience.

A worried anti-vaccinations parent posted on Facebook to ask whether there were any precautions she could take to protect her 3-year-old from a measles outbreak. Ah yes, if only there were a way. She was rightly given a social media spanking.

Measles vaccine is 97 percent effective after two doses, which usually also protect against mumps, rubella and sometimes varicella, or chickenpox, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. A well-vaccinated population takes on a "herd immunity" that hinders outbreaks. Some states, including Washington, allow parents wide latitude in skipping the vaccine. The Washington legislature is now rethinking that.

"Thankfully, we live in a highly immunized community," Julie Pryde, administrator of the Champaign-Urbana Public Health District, told the local News-Gazette. "That's why it doesn't go wild like a brush fire."

Watching plump, pure baby flesh pierced and feeling trepidation about how the child's system will react can be legitimately nerve-wracking for a parent. That's no license to avoid a medical necessity that protects child and community. The right to resist comes with a corresponding responsibility to back up that impulse with rigorous research.

See MEASLES on Next Page



GPS is definitely better than maps, breadcrumbs or your 'sense of direction'

I've been forever baffled by directions. I had to take the same route home from elementary school every day or follow someone who knew a different way. When family members snickered at my Aunt Jenny for having to return home between any two errands or risk getting lost, I didn't laugh. I filed that trick away for future use, along with Hansel and Gretel's breadcrumb stratagem.

Turning for help to people who have a "sense of direction" is rarely helpful. They point and explain in ways I can't follow, and their maps, homemade or professional, are equally indecipherable and exhausting. We Aunt Jennys are doomed to spend too many hours hanging around where we can't get lost or venturing forth in bad company just for the ride.

Until GPS.

The first time I found myself alone in the car with a Global Positioning System was when a friend loaned me an early version for my first solo drive to my kids' far-away colleges. Back then, GPS was a box with a tail that plugged into the car's cigarette lighter. The box had a suction cup on its back that never successfully stuck to the dash or windshield.

I forgave the system's incompetent suction cup the moment it spoke up in a clear, female-sounding robot voice and led me smoothly through freeway and lane changes. She was so helpful I could periodically unclamp my hands from the steering wheel to allow blood flow!

Several hours into that initial drive through darkening mountains, GPS and I turned a long, slow curve and came upon an enormous waterfall. Except the word enormous is not enormous enough, and it wasn't a waterfall. It was massive billowing waves of fog, cascading down a mountainside. I said something like, "Wow! Look at that!" She made no reply.

I was disappointed but impressed. She was establishing her boundaries.

After that, I included GPS whenever I rented a car, and she eased me through my scariest directional challenges, book gigs in far-flung locales. Even when she had different voices, accents and implied genitalia, I knew she was still my GPS; I recognized her by her calm professionalism and consideration. And now she, or her great-great-granddaughter, is in my phone.

I tap the little map on the mosaic of on-screen-icons and she unfurls. I type the address I'd like to arrive at, press "Go" and she talks me across town like she's talking a kid down from a tree limb or 'shrooms.

By AMY KOSS
Los Angeles Times

Amy Koss is a contributing writer to Los Angeles Times Opinion.



Unlike the giddy robot who calls with carpet-cleaning or cruise ship congratulations, or the one with an urgent freak-out message from an imaginary IRS, GPS's tone is confident and trustworthy. Sometimes she repeats things; she seems to know I'm easily distracted. Sometimes she three-peats a suggestion. This does not annoy or exasperate her.

Unlike the insufferable Grammar Monster app in my computer, GPS doesn't imply an eye-roll at my stupidity or offer me a bunch of alternatives as if where I'm headed is anybody's guess. (In case you think I'm paranoid about Grammar Monster, at the end of the week it sends me a snotty report card, comparing my productivity and accuracy to all its other clients. GPS would never do that.)

Sometimes GPS believes I know more than I do. Like which direction is north or how far away 600 feet is. I'm flattered, but just in case, to spare me the possibility of embarrassment, she rephrases it: "Take the exit," she says with zero contempt. Or "continue to the route," which she pronounces "root," which is endearing.

Occasionally, I feel just a tiny bit nagged, but I know GPS has my best interests at heart. Except for once, and that may have been my fault. I thought she knew I meant Glendale when she took me to the same address in Burbank. Neither of us has mentioned it since, of course.

We all want different things from our magic helpers. My brother's car not only guides him to his destination, it is also a phone and garage-door opener. It even helps him park and back up without having to turn his head or consult his mirrors. It's not quite driverless, but I can see where things are headed.

Some say GPS makes us lazy, inattentive, stupid about landmarks and immune from learning from our own mistakes. I wouldn't put it past Grammar Monster to believe that. But except for her resistance to small talk and her refusal to be wowed by wondrous weather, Aunt Jennys like me can't complain. She opens the road and sets us free.

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

The state of the union's border: solvable

“Democracy Dies in Darkness.”

—The Washington Post’s masthead motto

America’s democracy remains under siege from behind Kremlin walls. And America’s journalists, whose jobs are about shining that spotlight that democracy needs to survive and hopefully thrive, are increasingly under siege from behind that big iron fence at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue.

Yet, we need to acknowledge that sometimes America’s democracy, while under siege, is also under-served by those of us who are so proud of our roles in keeping Washington government a well-lighted (if not always clean) place. Sometimes even the most famous names in our biz don’t make the extra efforts to serve our customers – the American public.

And that was the case this week, as we watched America’s 24/7 TV cable news networks during the run-up to President Donald Trump’s State of the Union address. My former colleagues in cable news missed a great chance help Americans instinctively become their own first and best fact-checkers (see also: Braunschweiger detectors) during his speech.

In the hours before Trump’s Tuesday night speech, what we saw was a string of those look-alike, sound-alike cable news panel shows that were all about punditry, not news. We saw panels of Talking Heads talking about what they guessed the president might talk about. Also what they definitely thought was right or wrong with what only they guessed Trump might (or might not) say. Even when his speech was just minutes away. Yikes.

But what if the cable news deciders had boldly chosen to deep-six all that and shine their big news spotlight on the real news? Especially: the crucial controversy that just shut down govern-

ment once and is still hovering, unresolved, above the heads of the president, Congress, government and all Americans.

What if TV’s cable news networks had preceded Trump’s State of the Union address with a news special? Call it:

“The State of the Union’s Border: A Special Report on What Is Really Happening – and Not Happening – All Along the U.S.-Mexico Border.”

TV could have shown us a reality that helped Washington get past its absurd extremes (The crisis claims are overblown. Walls aren’t immoral). Republicans and Democrats can quickly find a compelling way to safeguard us all. TV could have shown us what local experts say are the real problems they face – and what they really need to solve it: a mix of barriers, high tech, and lots more manpower to enforce miles, inspect vehicles, run courts, process immigration claims.

TV execs want you to know they did it all before. What Americans need is for reporters to update, verify and clarify reality – now.

Eventually, that bold cable news effort would have virtually taken us all to El Paso, Texas, just across the Rio Grande from Juarez, Mexico. And TV’s producers would have created vivid graphics that were based on the El Paso Times’ excellent enterprise reporting, which used FBI statistics to tell this unforgettable tale of improvement:

Way back in 1993, El Paso’s violent crime peaked with 6,500 violent crimes recorded; by 2006, that had plummeted 34 percent to under 2,700 violent crimes. President George W. Bush approved a border fence; construction began in 2008, ended in 2009 – but that didn’t lower El Paso’s violent crime at all. El Paso’s crime actually rose 17 percent between 2006 and 2011. Still, El Paso’s crime rate was and is among the lowest for U.S. cities of its size.

By MARTIN SCHRAM

Tribune News Service



Martin Schram, an op-ed columnist for Tribune News Service, is a veteran Washington journalist, author and TV documentary executive. Readers may send him email at martin.schram@gmail.com.

Then we would have watched Trump’s address – and known instantly each El Paso claim was false:

“The border city of El Paso, Texas, used to have extremely high rates of violent crime—one of the highest in the country, and considered one of our nation’s most dangerous cities. Now, immediately upon its building, with a powerful barrier in place, El Paso is one of our safest cities. Simply put, walls work and walls save lives.”

We don’t know whether Trump knew he was lying to us, or whether his advisers knew it but never told him. But we know Trump is about to hear those tough truths he needs to know. On Monday, he’s going to El Paso to rally support for his Wall. Meanwhile, El Paso’s Sheriff Richard Wiles shovelled out some pre-visit reality in a statement Trump won’t like:

“It is sad to hear President Trump state falsehoods about El Paso, Texas in an attempt to justify the building of a 2,000 mile wall,” the sheriff said in a statement. “The facts are clear.... El Paso is one of the safest cities in the nation, it has never been ‘... considered one of our Nation’s most dangerous cities,’ and, El Paso was a safe city long before any Wall was built.”

The return of ancient prejudices

In the latter half of the 19th century and early in the 20th century, as Catholic immigrants poured in from Ireland and eastern Europe, an anti-Catholic wave spread over a mostly Protestant United States. The majority slur then was that Catholic newcomers’ first loyalty would be to “Rome,” not the U.S.

Anti-Semitism grew even more deeply rooted, marked by Ivy League quotas on Jewish applicants and exclusionary clauses against Jews in clubs and neighborhoods. It was no accident that the Ku Klux Klan often targeted Catholics and Jews as well as African-Americans.

In the late 19th century, with the influx of Japanese and Chinese immigrants arose the “yellow peril” scare, a racist distrust of supposedly workaholic automatons and unassimilable immigrants whose first loyalty was to their close-knit Asian communities and homelands, not the U.S.

Most of these injustices grew from both original prejudices (as evidenced by slavery) and fears of demographic change. An original population that was mostly British, Protestant and white gradually was augmented by people who were not northern European, often Catholic and increasingly non-white.

The stereotyped hatreds were battled by the melting-pot forces

of assimilation, integration and intermarriage. Civil rights legislation and broad education programs gradually convinced the country to judge all Americans on the content of their characters rather than the color of their skins or their religious beliefs. And over the last half-century, the effort to end institutional bias against African-Americans largely succeeded.

But recently, other ancient prejudices have been insidiously returning. And this time, the bias is more subtle, and it can be harder to address than traditional racism against non-white populations. The new venom, for example, is often spread by left-wing groups that claim victim status themselves and thus, by their logic, should not be seen as victimizers.

Progressive senators such as Dianne Feinstein (D-Calif.), Kamala Harris (D-Calif.), and Mazie Hirono (D-Hawaii) have attacked judicial nominees on grounds that they are Catholic, apparently because the Catholic Church and its affiliates officially disprove of abortion and gay marriage.

Feinstein complained that one appeals court nominee, Amy Coney Barrett, was a dubious choice because “the dogma lives loudly within you.” Hirono claimed that judicial nominee Brian Buescher was suspect because the Knights of Columbus held “extreme positions.” Harris whined that the public-service Catholic organization was an “all-male society comprised primarily of Catholic men.”

Recently, a number of newly elected congressional representatives—Ilhan Omar, Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez and Rashida Tlaib—have voiced virulent anti-Israel bias that came off as anti-Semitic. Rep. Hank Johnson (D-Ga.) compared Jewish settlers on the West Bank to “termites.” CNN pundit Marc Lamont Hill (who has since been fired) parroted the Hamas eliminationist slogan “Palestine from the river to the sea,” which is code for the destruction of the Jewish state.

Universities feel free to discriminate against Asian-Americans because their hard work and excellent preparation often leads to superb grades, test scores and application credentials. In other words, Asian-Americans supposedly distort progressive agendas of proportional representation, disparate impact and diversity by overachieving and being overqualified—purportedly robbing spots from other minority applicants.

Asian-American achievement also disproves the old canard that prejudice makes it impossible to find parity in the United States.

What is behind the rebirth of these old prejudices? In short, new, evolving prejudices.

First, America seemingly no longer believes in striving to

By VICTOR DAVIS HANSON

Tribune News Service



Victor Davis Hanson is a classicist and historian at the Hoover Institution, Stanford University and the author, most recently, of The Father of Us All: War and History, Ancient and Modern. You can reach him by emailing author@victorhanson.com.

achieve a gender-blind, racially and religiously mixed society, but instead is becoming a nation in which tribal identity trumps all other considerations.

Second, such tribal identities are not considered to be equal. Doctrinaire identity politics is predicated on distancing itself from white males, Christians and other groups who traditionally have achieved professional success and therefore enjoyed inordinate “privilege.”

Third, purported victims insist that they themselves cannot be victimizers. So, they are freer to discriminate and stereotype to advance their careers or political interests on the basis of anything they find antithetical to their own ideologies.

The Democratic senators who questioned the morality of judicial nominees’ religion likely would not treat a Muslim nominee in the same manner—although one could make the argument that contemporary Islam has had as many or more problems with gender equity than Western Catholicism has.

Calling any other ethnic group other than Jews “termites” might have earned Rep. Johnson congressional censure. And if professional football and basketball franchises turned away talented but “over-represented” African-American athletes to ensure greater diversity in the same manner that universities now systematically discriminate against Asian-Americans, there would be a national outcry.

What once helped to diminish ancient prejudices was the American creed that no one had a right to discriminate against fellow citizens on the basis of race, gender, class or religion.

And what fuels the return of American bias is the new idea that citizens can disparage or discriminate against other groups if they claim victim status and do so for purportedly noble purposes.

The more attitudes and agendas may change, the more they stay the same.

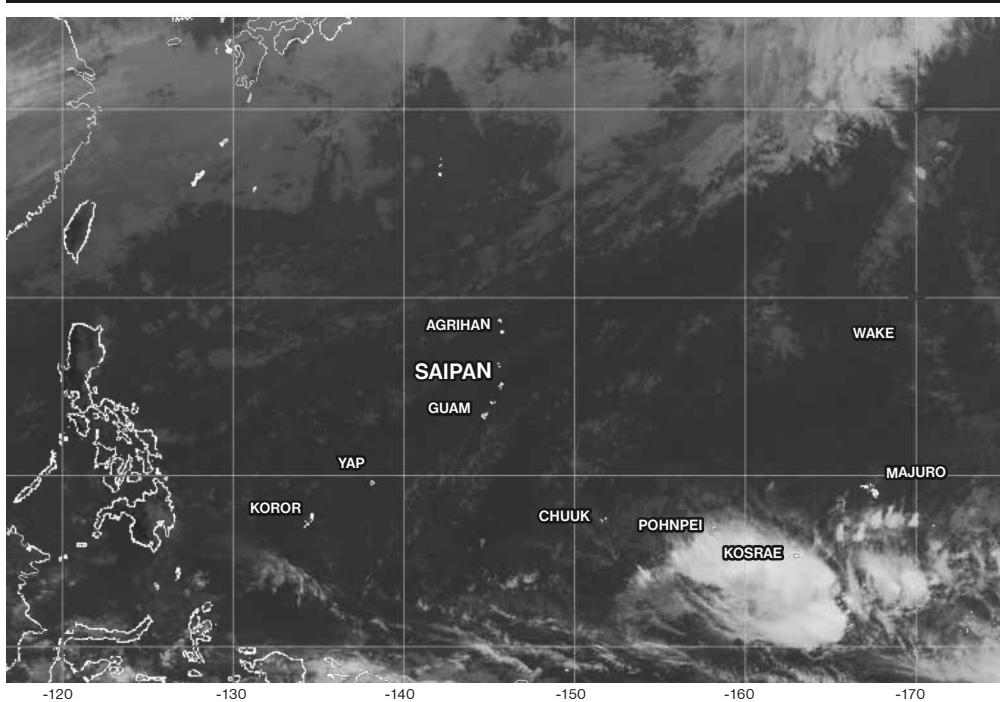
The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated light showers. Northeast winds 15 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy and breezy with isolated light showers. Northeast winds 15 to 25 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.

87° 76° 87° 76° 87° 76° 87° 76° 87° 76°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 6:04 AM, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2019

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Skies are mostly clear across the Marianas waters, but radar and satellite show some cloudiness and isolated showers approaching from the east. The buoys are indicating combined seas of 7 to 8 feet. Winds are moderate to fresh from the northeast.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA	▲	▼	°F
Guam and Rota	Partly Cloudy		84° / 76°
Palau	Cloudy		83° / 76°
Yap	Showers		85° / 78°
Chuuk	Partly Cloudy		85° / 79°
Pohnpei	Mostly Cloudy		85° / 79°
Kosrae	Mostly Cloudy		85° / 79°
Majuro	Showers		85° / 80°

AROUND THE GLOBE	▲	▼	°F
Auckland	Partly Cloudy		75° / 63°
Beijing	Mostly Sunny		34° / 21°
Hong Kong	Partly Cloudy		75° / 68°
Honolulu	Showers		78° / 66°
London	Mostly Cloudy		54° / 43°
Los Angeles	Mostly Cloudy		66° / 50°
Manila	Cloudy		88° / 75°
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy		66° / 50°
Miami	Thunderstorms		79° / 69°
New York	Mixed		34° / 33°
Osaka	Partly Cloudy		50° / 37°
Paris	Partly Cloudy		48° / 30°
Busan	Sunny		48° / 34°
Rome	Sunny		57° / 34°
Salem	Sunny		53° / 35°
San Francisco	Showers		53° / 49°
Seoul	Mostly Sunny		36° / 16°
Tokyo	Partly Cloudy		46° / 32°
Washington, DC	Rain		45° / 40°



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235-3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website: www.saipantribune.com.

CUSTOMER SERVICE For inquiries, purchase of back issues and complaints, call (670) 235-8747, 235-2440, fax 235-3740.

SUBSCRIPTION Published Monday to Friday, *Saipan Tribune* offers door-to-door on-island delivery at an annual rate of \$180. For additional subscription information, call (670) 235-8747 or 235-2769, or fax 235-3740.

ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JANUARY 21, 2019

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA117	9:15am	9:55am	Daily	UA174	7:30am	8:11am	Daily
UA105	6:25pm	7:05pm	2, 4	UA104	4:50pm	5:31pm	2, 4
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)				BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
7C3451	3:15am	6:30am	Daily	7C3452	9:35pm	2:00am+1	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
				7C3452	10:05pm	2:00am+1	1
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)				SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
OZ626	2:10am	6:00am	1	7C3402	10:10am	3:30pm	Daily
OZ626	2:50am	6:40am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	0Z625	7:40pm	1:00am+1	7
				0Z625	8:20pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3403	4:35am	8:25am	Daily	7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily
7C3401	4:30pm	8:25pm	Daily				
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)				SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8648	6:10am	8:50am	1, 4, 5, 7	3U8647	10:20pm	4:50am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-HANGZHOU (GHG)				HANGZHOU (GHG)-SAIPAN			
JD396	7:30am	11:00am	1	JD395	8:05am	3:30pm	4
JD396	4:50pm	7:55pm	4	JD395	9:35pm	5:00am+1	7
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)				GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8646	4:30am	7:55am	2, 6	3U8645	7:55pm	2:40am+1	1, 5
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)				BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN			
MU764	1:30am	6:35am	3, 5, 7	MU763	4:40pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
UA117/183	9:15am	9:40pm	2, 5 via GUM	UA182/174	12:40am	8:11am+1	3, 6 via GUM
UA117/183	9:15am	9:50pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM	PR110/UA174	10:05pm	8:11am+1	Daily via GUM
UA117/193	9:15am	11:50pm	2, 5 via GUM-ROR	UA192/174	10:30pm	8:11am+1	2, 5 via GUM-ROR
UA105/183	4:45pm	9:40pm	2 via GUM	UA184/174	10:55pm	8:11am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA105/183	4:45pm	9:50pm	4 via GUM	UA116/174	11:55pm	8:11am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)				HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
HX077	1:50am	5:15am	1, 4	OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:10am	11:50am	1 via ICN	OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	HX076	5:15pm	12:15am+1	3, 7
U043	5:45am	8:40am	1, 3, 5, 7	U042	6:50pm	1:45am+1	7
UA117/159	9:15am	11:00pm	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via GUM	U042	9:30pm	4:25am+1	2, 4, 6
UA105/159	4:45pm	11:00pm	2, 4 via GUM	UA116/174	11:45pm	8:11am+1	2, 4 via GUM
UA105/159	4:45pm	11:00pm	2, 4 via GUM	UA116/174	11:55pm	8:11am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, JD Beijing Capital, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, PR PAL Express; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. (<i>The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.</i>)							
STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.							
SAIPAN TO ROTA				1203	9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	1204	10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
1301	7:30AM	8:00AM	Daily	1205	11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
1302	11:30AM	12:00PM	Daily	1206	12:00PM	12:15PM	Daily
1303	4:00PM	4:30PM	Daily	1207	1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
ROTA TO SAIPAN				1208	2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FRE				

Business

WITH APPEAL TO GREED

Maduro seeks to raise dollars

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)—When Jose Humberto Vivas needs to trade dollars for Venezuelan bolivars, he usually flouts the nation's rigid exchange controls by turning to illegal currency traders.

But last week, Vivas put a few hundred dollars in his wallet and headed to an exchange house regulated by Venezuela's socialist government, lured by the seemingly improbable prospect of an official rate that is more inviting than the black market rate.

"I haven't been here in years," Vivas said as he stood in line outside Italcambio, a normally lifeless exchange house in downtown Caracas protected by tinted windows and an armed security guard who inspects customers' IDs.

"There's a long wait here and it takes days to get the money transferred to your account, but it might be worth it," said Vivas, who makes a living from selling dairy products.

Dealing with the department tattletale

Q: I share an office with an extremely nosy woman. "Jenna" is good friends with our manager and has a reputation as the department tattletale. She constantly monitors my activities and asks what I'm doing. My job involves spending a good deal of time online, so she may think I'm goofing off.

Jenna also appears to be jealous of my friendship with other coworkers and frequently asks me about their personal business. She doesn't get along with most of these people, so I suspect she's pumping me for information to give the boss.

Although I love my job, I'm becoming paranoid about my office mate. What should I do?

A: Kindly remember that you are not required to share information just because someone wants it. That's rule No. 1. Rule No. 2 is that you can usually divert an inquiry without being rude. Your goal with Jenna, therefore, is to respond in an amiable manner while revealing nothing of importance.

When she asks what you're doing on the internet, say something like, "Oh, it's another boring project." If she presses you further, reply that you don't have time to explain, but it's really not very interesting. If you con-

tinually provide nebulous responses, eventually she will stop asking.

But as Maduro's government runs out of hard currency amid an onslaught of international pressure and economic sanctions, it is taking in a markedly capitalist direction, encouraging Venezuelans to sell their greenbacks to the local financial system.

In a statement issued Jan. 29, the Central Bank described the devaluation as an economic stabilization measure aimed at controlling hyperinflation by undermining the black market.

Analysts called it a desperate gambit to raise hard cash in a country now beset by severe U.S. oil sanctions that could cost the government up to \$11 billion in revenue over the next 12 months. Without one of its most important sources of income, Venezuela will be hard-pressed to purchase food and other imports, potentially worsening shortages and deepening its economic collapse.

Little noticed amid the turmoil unleashed by the opposition's renewed push to oust President Nicolas Maduro, Venezuela's central bank devalued the country's currency on Jan. 28 by 50 percent, eclipsing the parallel black market rate.

The government now buys \$1 for 3,303 bolivars, while the informal market buys them at 3,120 bolivars, according to the website DollarToday. It is the first time the official exchange rate has been higher than that of the black market since currency controls were put in place more than a decade ago, analysts said.

The controls were implemented in 2003 by Hugo Chavez, the late president who initiated Venezuela's socialist system, and have frequently made the simple task of exchanging money into a stressful ordeal that involves searching for illegal currency dealers, logging into websites banned by the government,

Nation

Possible impeachment could further upend Virginia politics

RICHMOND, Va. (AP)—Virginia lawmakers on Monday will reluctantly face the unprecedented prospect of impeaching the state's second most powerful leader as they struggle to address revelations of past racist behavior and allegations of sexual assault roiling its highest levels of office.

At least one lawmaker said he will try to pursue impeachment of Democratic Lt. Gov. Justin Fairfax after two women accused Fairfax of sexual assault in the 2000s, a move that experts believe would be a first in Virginia. Fairfax has vehemently denied the claims and called for authorities, including the FBI, to investigate.

There's little sign of broad appetite for impeachment, with lawmakers set to finish this year's session by the month's end. But the Legislature is swirling with questions about lines of succession and the political fallout for Democrats should the governor, lieutenant governor or attorney general leave office, willingly or not.

Gov. Ralph Northam and Attorney General Mark Herring, both Democrats, are embroiled in their own scandal after acknowledging they wore blackface in the 1980s.



Virginia Lt. Gov. Justin Fairfax, greets, Bishop Felton Hawkins, Full Gospel Kingdom Church, Newport News, right, as well as State Sen. Lionel Spruill, Sr., D-Chesapeake, front, prior to the start of the Senate session at the Capitol in Richmond, Va., Friday, Feb. 8, 2019.

that can heal. There's no better person to do that than a doctor," Northam said. "Virginia also needs someone who is strong, who has empathy, who has courage and who has a moral compass. And that's why I'm not going anywhere."

The scandals have become a full-blown crisis for Virginia Democrats. Although the party has taken an almost zero-tolerance approach to sexual misconduct in the #MeToo era, a housecleaning in Virginia could be costly: If all three Democrats resigned, Republican state House Speaker Kirk Cox would become governor.

El Paso bristles at Trump's claim that wall made city safe

EL PASO, Texas (AP)—People walking over the Paso del Norte Bridge linking this West Texas border city to Mexico can watch President Donald Trump's border wall getting bigger in real time.

Workers in fluorescent smocks can be seen digging trenches, pouring concrete and erecting rust-colored slabs of 18-foot-high metal to replace layers of barbed-wire-topped fencing along the mud-colored Rio Grande, which is usually little more than a trickle.

Most of the more than 70,000 people who legally cross four city bridges daily—to shop, go to school and work—pay the construction in the heart of downtown no mind. But on a recent weekday, one man stopped and pointed, saying simply "Trump."

In his State of the Union address, the president said a "powerful barrier" had cut crime rates in El Paso. He's holding a rally here Monday to show why he's demanding

more than 100 miles of new walls, costing \$5.7 billion, along the 1,900-mile border, despite opposition from Democrats and some Republicans in Congress.

But many in this city of dusty desert winds and blistering salsa, bristle at the prospect of their home becoming a border wall poster child.

Trump said barriers turned El Paso from one of the nation's most dangerous cities to one of its safest, but that's not true.

El Paso, population around 800,000, had a murder rate less than half the national average in 2005, a year before the most recent expansion of its border fence.

That's despite being just across the border from drug violence-plagued Ciudad Juarez, Mexico.

Many residents say El Paso embodies a cross-border spirit that transcends walls rather than proving more are needed.

"The richest of the rich, the poorest of the poor, we all have different reasons for wanting to cross, and people

cross every day," said El Paso City Council member Peter Svarzbein.

El Paso lays bare the mixed feelings the border inspires. Even native Beto O'Rourke, a former Democratic congressman now mulling a presidential run, says barriers are inevitable but that Trump's calls for an expanded wall are the "cynical rhetoric of war, of invasions, of fear."

O'Rourke will help lead a Monday evening march opposing the wall with dozens of local civic, human rights and Hispanic groups at the same time Trump is holding his rally. Organizers expect thousands to turn out.

"While some try to stoke fear and paranoia, to spread lies and a false narrative about the U.S.-Mexico border and to demand a 2,000-mile wall along it at a time of record safety and security, El Paso will come together for a march and celebration that highlights the truth," O'Rourke said in a statement.

ability. I didn't intend for this to happen, so how can I repair our relationship?

A: Complaining about the boss is always a risky proposition, so anyone considering that step should carefully weigh the potential benefits against the potential cost. Even if your concerns are valid, your manager probably feels that he has been sandbagged. Since this was not your intention, the first step towards recovery may be a sincere statement of regret.

You certainly don't want to alienate someone who is buddies with your boss, so just be sure that all your conversations with Jenna are pleasant, friendly and vague.

Q: I have unintentionally created a big problem with my manager. Unfortunately, I have doubts about his technical skills and feel that he needs more training. Since I didn't want to tell him this, I decided to take some of my technical concerns to his boss.

His boss escalated our conversation into a formal discussion with human resources. As a result, my manager is now aware of my feelings about his technical

After that, just give things time to settle down. As long as you keep communications positive, your manager's resentment is likely to fade.



YOUR OFFICE COACH

By MARIE G. MCINTYRE

Tribune News Service

Marie G. McIntyre is a workplace coach and the author of "Secrets to Winning at Office Politics." Send in questions and get free coaching tips at <http://www.yourofficecoach.com>, or follow her on Twitter @officecoach.

Asia

Afghan lawmaker says airstrikes kill 21 civilians

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—Airstrikes in Afghanistan's southern Helmand province have killed 21 civilians, including women and children, a lawmaker from the region said Sunday.

Mohammad Hashim Alkozai said 13 civilians were killed in one strike and eight in another. Both were carried out late Friday in the Sangin district, where heavy fighting is underway between NATO-backed Afghan forces and the Taliban. Alkozai said at least five other people were wounded in the airstrikes.

"Innocent people, women and children, are the only victims of the airstrikes," he said, adding that the military operations have stoked public anger.

Omer Zwak, the provincial governor's spokesman, said insurgents fired on Afghan forces from a civilian area. He confirmed that airstrikes had killed civilians but could not

provide further information. He says an investigation has been launched.

Alkozai said he has raised concerns about civilian casualties in parliament and with government officials, but that they have taken no action.

Afghan forces are struggling to combat the Taliban, who hold sway over nearly half the country and carry out daily attacks on security forces.

Elsewhere in Afghanistan, the Taliban killed at least eight Afghan police in an attack on a checkpoint in the northern Sari Pul province late Saturday, said Zabihullah Amani, the governor's spokesman. He said three other police were wounded in the gunbattle, which lasted several hours.

The Taliban attacked an army checkpoint in the province late Friday, killing three soldiers and wounding four, Amani said.

In a separate development,

the Afghan intelligence service said it had arrested three members of the Haqqani group, a Taliban faction believed to be based in Pakistan, in connection with two bombings in Kabul that killed and wounded dozens of people.

The National Directorate of Security said the three suspects confessed to taking part in a truck bombing near the German Embassy in May 2017 that killed at least 90 people, and a November 2018 attack that killed five security contractors, including a British national.

The NDS also said it had arrested a university professor and an imam in Kabul who had recruited hundreds of young people for the local Islamic State affiliate, sending them to the eastern Nangarhar province for training. It said the imam confessed that his own nephew had carried out a suicide bombing in Kabul.

Thailand puzzles over political surprises from royals

BANGKOK (AP)—A Thai political party swore loyalty to the king after its stunning decision to nominate the monarch's sister as its candidate for prime minister backfired when the king called the move inappropriate and unconstitutional.

The statement of fealty comes as the country ponders a whirlwind Friday in which Princess Ubolratana Mahidol broke with tradition proscribing the monarchy's involvement with politics to become a candidate for the Thai Raksa Chart Party, only to have her brother, King Maha Vajiralongkorn, invalidate her action with a late night order.

Thai Raksa Chart's statement said the party loyally accepted the king's order and expressed deep gratitude to Ubolratana for her kindness toward the party.

Ubolratana, who is active on Instagram, did not directly mention the king's order in a Saturday message, merely thanking people for their support and encouragement and insisting on her sincere desire to see Thailand progress with rights and opportunities for all its people.

Thailand's March 24 election will be the country's first since a 2014 military coup put in place a junta determined to reshape the political system to eradicate the influence of former Prime Minister Thaksin

Shinawatra, whose allies have won every national election since 2001.

So it was not only a shock that Ubolratana was formally entering politics, but also that she was doing so in alliance with a Thaksin-backed party. Her candidacy would have pitted her against the junta leader and current Prime Minister Prayuth Chan-ocha, the preferred choice for premier of the pro-royalist military.

Thaksin has been in exile since 2008, two years after he was ousted by the military in a 2006 coup. Thailand's establishment has spent more than a decade trying to neuter his political machine through court rulings, constitutional rewrites and other changes to the electoral system. In addition to deepening political divisions that have flared into protests and street violence, the campaign has had little success.

"Chin up and keep moving forward! We learn from past experiences but live for today and the future. Cheer up! Life must go on!" Thaksin tweeted on Saturday.

Just eight years after ousting him, the military stepped in again to remove his sister's government.

Thaksin remains wildly popular with the country's rural majority, who were drawn to his populist policies such as universal health care and rice subsidies and were will-

ing to overlook accusations that he was enriching himself while in office. But Thaksin's popularity made the country's Bangkok-based establishment uneasy and some saw his popularity as a threat to the monarchy itself.

Thaksin, who escaped from Thailand to avoid serving prison time on a conflict of interest conviction he insists was political, was generally believed to have been involved in setting up Ubolratana's candidacy. That shook the Thai royalists, who have long seen their campaign against Thaksin as way to protect the monarchy.

It was widely assumed that Ubolratana, thought to be close to her brother, had at least received his approval for her action. What actually had happened behind the scenes is unlikely to become public, because the royal family's private affairs are almost never leaked.

Vajiralongkorn's order stressed that Thailand's Constitution insists that the king and those around him stay above politics, and the principles of democratic government also put politics off-limits.

It directly addressed the point that his sister was a member of the royal family even though her formal royal titles had been lifted decades ago when she married a foreigner.

World

MAY URGES UK LAWMAKERS: Give me more time to get Brexit deal'



AP
Britain's Prime Minister Theresa May talks to journalists after her meeting with European Council President Donald Tusk at the European Council headquarters in Brussels, Thursday, Feb. 7, 2019.

LONDON (AP)—With Brexit just 47 days away, the British government asked lawmakers on Sunday to give Prime Minister Theresa May more time to seek changes from the EU. The U.K.'s bid for last-minute changes has exasperated EU leaders, who insist the legally binding withdrawal agreement can't be changed.

Communities Secretary James Brokenshire said Parliament would get to pass judgment on May's Brexit plan "no later than Feb. 27."

The promise is a bid to avert a showdown on Thursday, when Parliament is set to debate and vote on next moves in the Brexit process. Some lawmakers want to try to seize control and steer the country toward a softer exit from the bloc.

British businesses fear a no-deal Brexit will cause gridlock at ports by ripping up the trade rulebook and

imposing tariffs, customs checks and other barriers between the U.K. and the EU, its biggest trading partner.

Austrian Foreign Minister Karin Kneissl told the BBC that a "disorderly exit" was now the most likely option.

Opponents of the government accuse May of deliberately wasting time so that Parliament will face a last-minute choice between her deal and no deal.

Carolyn Fairbairn of business group the Confederation of British Industry said failure to secure a deal in good time was "negligence on behalf of our political institutions and leaders."

WORLD BRIEFS

Death toll at Istanbul building collapse reaches 21

ISTANBUL (AP)—Turkey's interior minister says the death toll from a collapsed apartment building in Istanbul has risen to 21. Minister Suleyman Soylu spoke late Saturday, saying those who made "mistakes" would be held accountable. The eight-story building in the city's Kartal district collapsed on Wednesday. Rescue workers remain at the site and it is unclear how many more people are missing. The collapsed building had 14 apartments, 43 registered residents and three businesses. Thirteen people pulled from the rubble have been hospitalized and seven remain in intensive care. Chief Doctor Recep Demirhan says that two are in very serious condition, according to Turkey's official Anadolu news agency. Officials have said the top two floors of the building were built illegally using low-quality construction materials.

Turkey urges China to respect Uighur rights, close camps

ISTANBUL (AP)—Turkey has called China's treatment of its minority Uighurs "a great cause of shame for humanity." In a statement Saturday, Foreign Ministry spokesman Hami Aksoy said it's "no longer a secret" that China has arbitrarily detained more than a million Uighurs in "concentration camps." He said the Turkic Muslim population faced pressure and "systematic assimilation" in western China. Aksoy said Turkey has shared with China its position on "all levels" and urged authorities

to close the detention facilities and respect human rights. The minister said Turkey had also learned of the death in prison of famed Uighur musician and poet Abdurehim Heyit, who had been sentenced to eight years over one of his songs. "This tragedy has further reinforced the reaction of the Turkish public opinion toward serious human rights violations committed in the Xinjiang region," Aksoy said.

Doctors demand humanitarian aid be allowed into Venezuela

CUCUTA, Colombia (AP)—Venezuelan doctors protested Sunday at the entrance to a bridge blocked by their nation's military to demand that humanitarian aid be allowed to enter, as opposition leader Juan Guaido acknowledged the conflict over the food and medical supplies could lead to clashes. Carrying a giant Venezuelan flag, about two dozen doctors in white coats called on the military to remove a tanker and two cargo containers blocking the Tienditas International Bridge where humanitarian aid provided by the United States is being stored. The doctors protested on the Colombia side of the border, saying they would face repercussions for holding a similar demonstration on the Venezuelan side. Dr. Katia Diaz, a psychiatrist, said that each day aid sits waiting for transport into Venezuela represents one more day in which patient lives are at risk. "Those containers represent the arrogance of a dictator," she said. "It lays bare the lack of humanity, of compassion for the pain of our people."

Focus

By HYUNG-JIN KIM
ASSOCIATED PRESS

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—When President Donald Trump and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un first met in Singapore last year, there was pomp, there was circumstance, but there wasn't much substance.

Before they meet again in Vietnam on Feb. 27-28, there's growing pressure that they forge a deal that puts them closer to ending the North Korean nuclear weapons threat.

But what could that look like?

Kim may be willing to dismantle his main nuclear complex. The U.S. may be willing to cough up concessions, maybe remove some sanctions. The question, however, is whether what's on offer will be enough for the other side.

Here's a look at what each side could be looking for as Trump and Kim try to settle a problem that has bedeviled generations of policymakers.

DESTROYING A NUKE COMPLEX

The North's Yongbyon (sometimes spelled Nyongbyon) nuclear complex, located about 100 kilometers (60 miles) north of Pyongyang, has facilities that produce both plutonium and uranium, two key ingredients in nuclear weapons. North Korea's state media have called the complex of a reported 390 buildings "the heart of our nuclear program."

After a September meeting with Kim, South Korean President Moon Jae-in told reporters that Kim promised to dismantle the complex if the United States takes unspecified corresponding steps. Stephen Biegun, the U.S. spe-

cial representative for North Korea, recently said that Kim also committed to the dismantlement and destruction of North Korea's plutonium and uranium enrichment facilities when he met visiting Secretary of State Mike Pompeo last October.

Since fresh diplomatic efforts began last year, the North has suspended nuclear and missile tests and dismantled its nuclear testing site and parts of its long-range rocket launch facility. But destroying the Yonbyon complex would be Kim's biggest disarmament step yet and would signal his resolve to move forward in negotiations with Trump.

There is worry among some, however, that the complex's destruction won't completely dispel widespread skepticism about North Korea's denuclearization commitments. It would still have an estimated arsenal of as many as 70 nuclear weapons and more than 1,000 ballistic missiles. North Korea is also believed to be running multiple undisclosed uranium-enrichment facilities.

"We could call (Yong-

byon's destruction) a half-deal or a small-deal," said Nam Sung-wook, a professor at Korea University and a former president of the Institute for National Security Strategy, a think tank affiliated with South Korea's main spy agency. "It's really an incomplete denuclearization step" that matches past tactics meant to slow disarmament steps so it can win a series of concessions.

US REWARDS

To get the North to commit to destroying the Yongbyon complex, some experts say Trump needs to make important concessions.

Those would likely need to include jointly declaring an end of the 1950-53 Korean War, opening a liaison office in Pyongyang, allowing North Korea to restart some economic projects with South Korea and possibly easing some sanctions on the North.

Kim may most want sanctions relief to revive his country's dilapidated economy and bolster his family's dynastic rule.

"For North Korea, abandoning the Yongbyon com-

plex is a fairly big (negotiating) card ... so the North will likely try to win some economic benefits," said Chon Hyun-joon, president of the Institute of Northeast Asia Peace Cooperation Studies in South Korea.

At the Singapore summit, Kim and Trump agreed to establish new relations between their countries and build a lasting peace on the Korean Peninsula. But they didn't elaborate on how to pursue those goals.

North Korea has since complained about the lack of action by the United States, saying it already took disarmament steps, and returned American detainees and the remains of American war dead. The U.S. for its part suspended some of its military drills with South Korea, a concession to North Korea, which calls the exercises dress rehearsal for invasion.

Kim and Moon agreed at the first of their three summits in 2018 to settle an end-of-war declaration. Moon said last month it could ease mutual hostility between Washington and Pyongyang, and

accelerate North Korea's de-nuclearization.

But some worry that a declaration ending the Korean War, which was stopped by an armistice and has yet to be replaced with a peace treaty, might provide North Korea with a stronger basis to call for the withdrawal of 28,500 U.S. troops in South Korea.

In his New Year's address, Kim also said he was ready to resume operations at a jointly run factory park in the North Korean border town of Kaesong and restart South Korean tours to the North's Diamond Mountain resort. Those are two of the now-dormant inter-Korean projects that supplied badly needed foreign currency for the impoverished North.

A BREAKTHROUGH?

To make the Vietnam summit a blockbuster, Trump will likely need more than Yongbyon.

A bigger deal would see a detailed accounting of North Korea's nuclear assets, and possibly shipping some North Korean nuclear bombs or long-range missiles out of the

country for disabling.

That would be costly. North Korea would likely demand a drastic easing of sanctions and a resumption of exports of coal and other mineral resources.

A North Korean declaration of its nuclear program would provide invaluable information, if verified by U.S. intelligence, to Washington and others. It would offer looks at hidden nuclear fuel facilities and missile deployments, which is why Pyongyang has been reluctant to provide it.

According to South Korean and other assessments, Yongbyon alone is estimated to have 50 kilograms (110 pounds) of weaponized plutonium, enough for six to 10 bombs, and a highly enriched uranium inventory of 250 to 500 kilograms (550 to 1,100 pounds), sufficient for 25 to 30 nuclear devices.

Undisclosed uranium enrichment facilities would up the stockpile.

Because of the difficulty involved, Trump may want to focus on the North's long-range missiles, which could, when perfected, pose a direct threat to the U.S. mainland. But such a partial deal would rattle many in South Korea and Japan, which are well within striking distance of North Korea's short- and medium-range missiles.

If lower level officials can't lay the ground for a bigger deal ahead of the summit, the Kim-Trump meeting could be cancelled, said Lim Eul Chul, a professor at South Korea's Kyungnam University who has advised the Moon government on North Korea-related policies.

Trump-Kim summit to focus on N Korea nuke complex, US rewards



In this June 27, 2008 file photo released by China's Xinhua News Agency, the cooling tower of the Yongbyon nuclear complex is demolished in Yongbyon, North Korea, in a sign of its commitment to stop making plutonium for atomic bombs. When U.S. President Donald Trump and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un first met in Singapore in 2018, there was pomp, there was circumstance, but there wasn't much substance. As they get ready to sit down again in Vietnam on Feb. 27-28, 2019, there's growing pressure that they forge a deal that puts them closer to ending the North Korean nuclear weapons threat.

AUTO REVIEW:

Overdrive

Buick's TourX offers a premium wagon version of Regal sedan, AWD included

By EMMA JAYNE WILLIAMS

FORT WORTH STAR-TELEGRAM

Buick introduced a luxury station wagon version of the Regal sedan in 2018, the Regal TourX, which went on to boost sales of the Regal lineup.

For 2019, the five-passenger TourX comes in three trims – base TourX (\$29,070), Preferred (\$32,670), and Essence (\$35,070). It's identical to the 2018 model, with one small change: an ionizing cabin air cleaner has been added to the Essence trim.

All trims are powered by a 250-horsepower 2.0-liter turbo four-cylinder engine, connected to an eight-speed automatic transmission with manual mode using the shifter.

Also standard on all trims is intelligent all-wheel drive. I-AWD with active twin clutch sends power to the wheels with the most grip to maximize traction on slippery roads and improve cornering and acceleration on dry roads.

TourX is designed for adventure, with rugged styling and purposeful features. Custom black cladding surrounds 18-inch machine-faced aluminum wheels with dark painted pockets, wearing all-season blackwall tires. The wheels are designed to reduce road noise on most surfaces, while the cladding protects the vehicle from rocks and debris. TourX comes with a tire sealant and inflator kit in place of a spare tire.

My TourX Essence was Summit White with heated Ebony leather seating. The front bucket seats offered three levels of warmth, welcome on chilly mornings. Two standard colors are offered, the Summit White and Sport Red (candy), with five available for \$495 each (Quicksilver, Riojo Red, Dark Moon Blue, and Smoked Pearl metallics, and Ebony Twilight) and one (White Frost tricoat) for \$1,095.

Halogen headlights had signature LED daytime running lights, a flash-to-pass feature, and automatic headlight-leveling system. LED taillights also had LED signature lighting, and the heated auto-dimming driver's side mirror had a memory setting. Front cornering lights are available.

The wide black grille had vertical bars, with the Buick Tri-Shield flanked by chrome

2019 Buick Regal Tour X.
TNS

"wings." A matte silver air dam underlined the front bumper, below the black lower body cladding. Fog lights at the outer bumper had an angled chrome lower trim.

Chrome trimmed the top window edge from the bottom of the A-pillar, through the C-pillar, down into the taillight, where angled chrome curved down and out toward the corner, creating a unique styling detail.

A deep crease on the lower door panels swept from the front quarter toward the rear and up at the back edge of the rear door, echoing the angles seen in the lighting. Parallelogram chrome exhaust tips peeked out of the outer rear bumper, with a matte silver air dam between.

A hands-free programmable power liftgate featured an LED Buick logo indicating where to swipe a foot to open the cargo area. With the 40/20/40 split rear seatbacks folded flat, the cargo area would hold up to 73.5 cubic feet of camping equipment, luggage, flea market finds, DIY supplies – whatever you need to haul.

The standard chrome roof rails can be outfitted with crossbars for attaching various accessories for extra hauling capacity.

My Essence had a heated, leather-wrapped, manual tilt-telescoping steering wheel with controls for audio, phone, voice recognition and cruise.

Remote start with programmable temperature meant I could warm the interior before running out into the cold. The system locks the doors and turns on the parking lights while the engine is running.

Dual-zone automatic climate control had rear air vents and air filtration/ionizer to purify the air inside. Ambient interior lighting was welcoming on foggy mornings. Entry was keyless, and upon exiting, the system locked all doors automatically.

A 4.2-inch multi-color driver-information screen – between the tachometer and speedometer – provided key information such as fuel range, tire pressure, oil life, warnings (such as rear seat reminder and weather alerts), audio information, and more.

The Ebony interior had subtle silver trim on the doors, dash, center stack/console, air vents, and steering wheel; faux wood on the door panels and

center console; and contrast stitching on the side bolsters, armrests/headrests, steering wheel, and carpeted floor mats.

Buick's infotainment system, with an eight-inch high-resolution color touch screen tucked under the lip of the dash, had Siri EyesFree and natural voice recognition for radio and phone, Bluetooth audio streaming, USB/auxiliary ports, in-vehicle apps, Apple CarPlay (music, maps) and Android Auto (Google maps, Google Play music, more) capability, and personalization capability using third-party apps. Two charging USB ports were on the back of the center console for rear passengers' convenience.

SiriusXM Radio (three-month trial) with All Access brought more than 150 channels including commercial-free music, sports, talk, entertainment, and news and the ability to listen on the app and online.

Active Noise Cancellation



The spacious interior of the 2019 Buick Regal Tour X.

high-speed driving, late-night driving, and average mph and fuel economy. Using a personal username and password, drivers can check their scores on the OnStar website, sorting by day, week, year, or lifetime. The Smart Driver system will also provide advice and tips to improve the driving score.

The MyBuick app allows the driver to start and stop the engine, lock and unlock the doors, check tire pressure, get real-time diagnostics from almost anywhere using a mobile device.

The standard Stabilitrak electronic stability control system with traction control provided confidence on wet/icy roads by adjusting the brakes and engine torque when it sensed a loss of traction barely noticeable to the driver.

Front air bags had a passenger sensing system to automatically switch off the front passenger and knee air bags if the seat is unoccupied. Knee air bags help reduce the risk of leg injury in moderate to severe frontal impacts, while seat-mounted side-impact air bags (front and rear) and head-curtain air bags protect passengers in side-impact and rollover crashes.

Teen Driver was standard for my Buick TourX Essence. The system allows parents to activate a specific key fob to help coach a new driver's behaviors behind the wheel by setting a speed warning (between 40 and 75 mph), limiting speed, limiting audio volume/muting audio until driver and front passenger seatbelts are fastened, and defaulting available safety features to "ON" (they cannot be turned off as long as the designated key fob is in use). Parents/owners can access an in-vehicle report card to track the teen's performance.

Buick TourX is versatile for everyday use or weekend adventures. Although it's equipped with all-wheel drive, the low ground clearance would limit TourX to well-maintained dirt or gravel roads (camping, fishing, sightseeing) rather than real off-road fun. TourX is attractive and sporty, with subtle bright touches and side creases.

Buick Smart Driver is a driving-improvement system, designed to gather, analyze, and display driving-related information such as hard braking/acceleration events,

Life & Style

Female acts, rap songs win big at the Grammy Awards

LOS ANGELES (AP)—

Women returned at the Grammys on Sunday as female acts won album of the year and best new artist, while rap also triumphed, with Childish Gambino's "This Is America" becoming the first rap-based song to win record and song of the year.

Kacey Musgraves' "Golden Hour" picked up album of the year, and Dua Lipa won best new artist.

"I don't even know what to say," Musgraves said. "I am very thankful. Winning doesn't make my album any better than anybody else in that category."

Gambino was the night's big winner, picking up four honors, including best music video and best rap/sung performance.

Drake surprised the music world when he emerged on stage to accept the best rap song trophy but told the room of musicians that winning awards isn't necessary if you have real fans attending your concerts and singing your songs.

Drake, who rarely attends awards shows, won the honor for his massive hit "God's Plan."

"You've already won if you have people who are singing your songs word for word, if you're a hero in your hometown. Look, if there are people who have regular jobs who are coming out in the rain and the snow, spending their hard-earned money to buy tickets to come to your shows, you don't need this right here. I promise you. You already won," he said at the Staples Center in Los Angeles.

He tried to continue speaking but was cut off as the ceremony suddenly went to a

commercial.

Rap has endured a longtime losing streak at the Grammys. The last time a rapper won album of the year was in 2004, with Outkast. Only a handful of rappers have won best new artist.

Cardi B made history as the first solo female to win best rap album (Lauryn Hill won as a member of the Fugees at the 1997 Grammys).

She was shaking onstage as she tried to give a thank-you speech with her rapper-husband Offset holding her arm.

"The nerves are so bad. Maybe I need to start smoking weed," she said as the audience laughed. "I just want to say thank you everybody that was involved ... I want to thank my daughter."



Lady Gaga, from left, Jada Pinkett Smith, Alicia Keys, Michelle Obama and Jennifer Lopez speak at the 61st annual Grammy Awards on Sunday, Feb. 10, 2019, in Los Angeles. AP

The Grammys kicked off with a group of powerful women, including Michelle Obama and Lady Gaga, describing the role of music in their lives—a display that came a year after female voices were somewhat muted at the 2018 ceremony.

"Music has always helped me tell my story," said Obama, who surprised the audience with her appearance. "Whether we like country or rap or rock, music helps us share ourselves. It allows us to hear one another."

WINNERS' LIST

A list of top winners at the 61st annual Grammy Awards.

Album of the year: "Golden Hour" by Kacey Musgraves

Record of the year: "This Is America" by Childish Gambino

Song of the year: "This Is America" by Childish Gambino and Ludwig Goransson

Best rap/sung performance: "This Is America" by Childish Gambino

Best music video: "This Is America" by Childish Gambino

Best rap album: "Invasion of Privacy" by Cardi B

Best rap song: "God's Plan" by Drake

Best new artist: Dua Lipa

Best country album: "Golden Hour" by Kacey Musgraves

Best pop duo/group performance: "Shallow" by Lady Gaga and Bradley Cooper

Best pop vocal album:

"Sweetener" by Ariana Grande

Best pop solo performance: Lady Gaga's "Joanne (Where Do You Think You're Goin'?)"

Best R&B album: "H.E.R." by H.E.R.

Best R&B song: "Boo'd Up" by Ella Mai, DJ Mustard, Lorraine Dopson and Joelle James

Best R&B performance: "When Bad Does Good" by Chris Cornell

Best dance recording: "Electricity" by Silk City and Dua Lipa featuring Diplo and Mark Ronson

Best country song: "Space Cowboy," Kacey Musgraves (Luke Laird, Shane McAnally and Kacey Musgraves)

Best reggae album: "44/876" by Sting & Shaggy

Best country solo performance: Kacey Musgraves ("Butterflies")

Best duo/group country performance: Dan + Shay's "Tequila"

Best jazz vocal album: "The Window" by Cecile

McLorin Salvant

Best alternative music album: "Colors," Beck

Best comedy album: "Equanimity & the Bird Revelation," Dave Chappelle

Best Latin pop album: Claudia Brant's "Sincera"

Best spoken word album: Jimmy Carter's "Faith — A Journey for All"

Best folk album: Punch Brothers' "All Ashore"

Best contemporary Christian music album: Lauren Daigle's "Look Up Child"

Best musical theater album: "The Band's Visit"

Best American roots song: Brandi Carlile's "The Joke"

Best American roots performance: Brandi Carlile's "The Joke"

Best Americana album: Brandi Carlile's "By the Way, I Forgive You"

Best gospel album: Tori Kelly's "Hiding Place"

Best contemporary Christian music performance/song: Lauren Daigle's "You Say"

Best world music album: Soweto Gospel Choir's "Freedom"

Best compilation soundtrack for visual media: "The Greatest Showman"

Best score soundtrack for visual media: "Black Panther"

Best song written for visual media: "Shallow" from "A Star Is Born"

Best traditional blues album: Buddy Guy's "The Blues Is Alive and Well"

Best music film: Quincy Jones' "Quincy"

Best boxed or special limited edition package: "Squeeze Box: The Complete Works of 'Weird Al' Yankovic"

Second wife-to-be wants man's name all to herself

DEAR ABBY: My boyfriend and I both got divorced about the same time, but his took much longer to become final. It is finally over, so we have begun talking seriously about marriage and starting a family.

During one of our conversations, he mentioned that his ex-wife doesn't intend to change back to her maiden name. I was shocked because she took advantage of him financially and was emotionally abusive all during their marriage. They had no kids, so it has nothing to do with her wanting to share the same name with them. They were married only a few years, so she isn't well established under that name, either.

When I asked him why she wasn't changing it, he told me she said his family was always nicer to her than her own. I suggested he ask her to adopt another last name of her choosing if she doesn't want to go back to her maiden name rather than be falsely associated with a family she is no longer a part of (or welcome in). He won't consider taking on my last name, so I'm thinking about keeping my own maiden name after our marriage until she changes hers. Am I overreacting, or are two "Mrs." too many?

SOON TO MARRY IN CALIFORNIA

DEAR SOON TO MARRY: You are overreacting. When

a man has divorced, his ex can retain his last name if she wishes. Some do it because they think it may be to their advantage socially to be associated with the family. I have heard of others doing it because they didn't like their maiden name.

Please keep in mind that after your wedding you will—if you wish—become "Mrs. John Smith." The ex can use the last name, but will have to use HER OWN first name with it (Ms. Jane Smith) without reference to your husband.

Of course, if you wish to keep your maiden name, you are free to do it—many women do. But if you make that decision, please do it for any other reason than because of the one you put in your letter to me.

DEAR ABBY: My mother used to go nuts anytime the cameras came out. No matter the setting, the celebration or how lovely she looked, Mom would fling her hand up and yell, "Get that thing out of my face!" even when other family members were in the shot. One day, in exasperation, I finally told her, "Ya know, Mom, someday the only pictures your descendants will have of you will be of an angry, scowling woman."

Abby, please remind your readers we aren't trying to persecute them when we want a picture. We just want to hold, share and save photos of the people we love the most, and the kind-

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

ness and love in their eyes shouldn't be obscured by their hands.
FINALLY GOT THROUGH TO MOM

DEAR FINALLY: Although we live in a self-promoting and selfie culture, many individuals feel the way your mother does—like a deer in the headlights when a camera is aimed their way. That said, the point you made was valid, and I am pleased that she listened. It is for that reason I'm printing your letter.

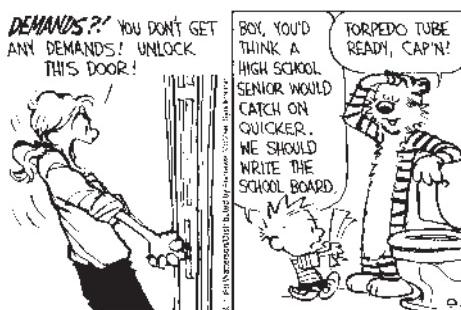
For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes



By Bill Waterson



Garfield®

By Jim Davis



Adam@home



By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS	36	Mater	2	Flying	23	Press
1 Havana's land	37	lead-in	3	saucer	24	agent?
5 For each	38	Test score	4	Satchel	25	The March King
8 — Valley, Calif.	39	Spider's creation	5	Video-game hub	26	"OK" gesture
12 Miles away	40	Spill catcher	6	Sun-screen additive	27	Spanish greeting
13 Parisian pal	41	Location	7	Brit. record label	28	Oklahoma city
14 Former Yankee slugger, to fans	42	Cozy spot on the slopes	8	Sandwich shop	29	See socially
15 Abe Lincoln's first home	43	Relishes	9	Cellphone tune	31	Only
17 Cello's ancestor	44	Jeopardize	10	Relishes	34	Aloha State
18 In the style of	45	Pieces for one	11	In a lazy way	35	Garden shelters
19 Shiny, as a photo	46	Evening hrs.	12	Hearty quaff	37	Baseball's Hodges
21 Trombone part	47	Hose woe	13	Joyful tune	38	Scoundrels
24 Swizzle	DOWN	DOWN	14	Lowly worker	39	Sandwich treat
25 Ireland	1	Nev.	15	neighbor	40	Phone inventor
26 Backyard structure	21	Lowly worker	16	22 Stead	41	Morsels
30 Old Oldsmobile	22	neighbor	17	23	44	Carrier to Amsterdam
31 Move to one side	23	24	18	25	45	Cacophony
32 — roll (winning)	24	25	19	26	46	Fed. property manager
33 Theme park attraction	25	26	20	27	47	Heart chart (Abbr.)
35 Landed	26	27	21	28		

Yesterday's answer 2-12

For answers to today's crossword, call
1-900-226-5956 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

STUMPED?

©2012 Conceptis Puzzles, Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY:

Christina Ricci, 39; Darren Aronofsky, 50; Josh Brolin, 51; Arsenio Hall, 63.

Happy Birthday: Pay attention to what you can accomplish, not what you cannot. Your aim should be to make the most progress, not pursue a dead end. Don't let emotions take over or cause you to make poor decisions. Use your intelligence and charm to find out what you need to know to move forward without risk or damage to important relationships. Your numbers are 3, 11, 16, 21, 28, 33, 42.

TAURUS (March 21-April 19): Look for an opening or a new beginning, or take it upon yourself to learn something that will help you advance. If you want change, it's up to you to do the groundwork necessary to achieve the goal you set. ★★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Speak from the heart. What you say to others will make a difference if you are trying to get the support you need to bring about positive change. Ask for help, but find out what's expected in return. ★★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Look at the big picture and analyze what others do, say and respond. Weed out anyone who appears suspicious or who is offering the impossible. You can move forward only if you build your ideas and plans on solid ground. ★★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Your charm will win over even your toughest critic. Use your creative imagination to dazzle those you want to impress. Your relation-

ships will improve if you show compassion and offer help. Love and romance will enhance your personal life. ★★★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Make changes if that's what you want. Don't sit around waiting for someone else to step in and take over. If you'd like things done your way, do them yourself. A partnership should be based on equality. ★★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): You'll have an interesting view of what's going on around you. Observe and make decisions based on what you see and hear. A steady pace and strategic input will help you get what you want within your budget. ★★★★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Take better care of your health and well-being. Refuse to let anyone upset you or cause unnecessary stress. Deal with demanding people directly if you want to avoid stewing over something that may or may not happen. Take control. ★★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Use your creativity, imagination and desire to be unique to your advantage. How you approach others will make a difference in the outcome of what you are trying to accomplish. A personal change will draw compliments. Romance is highlighted. ★★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Trust in yourself and your ability to get things done on your own. If you count on someone else, you will be disappointed. What someone tells you and what he or she does will not coincide. Take care of your interests personally. ★★★

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY



COURTESY 2007 UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Accept the inevitable and do your own thing. The changes that come about will turn out better than anticipated. Focus on home, family and stability. Refuse to let someone's unexpected reaction dictate how you feel or how you move forward. ★★★★★

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): A secretive approach will be in your best interest. If you are too emotional or vocal about the way you feel or what you are doing, someone will take advantage of you. A poker face is favored. ★★★

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Offer to lend a helping hand. You will gain respect and build the resources you need to increase your chance to advance. A personal change will draw compliments and interest. Give-and-take, along with hard work, will pay off. ★★★★★

Birthday Baby: You are determined, ambitious and proactive. You are unpredictable and secretive.

To submit astrological questions to the "Dear Eugenia" column, visit Eugenialast.com, or join Eugenia on Twitter/Facebook/LinkedIn.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

8	3		1	
	2	6	7	5
7	1			
9	8	1	3	2
2	4	9	7	6
3	8	5	2	
	5		8	2

Difficulty Level ★★

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Last Friday's Answer

3	8	5	4	1	9	6	2	7
4	9	7	6	2	3	1	5	8
1	2	6	8	7	5	3	4	9
2	3	9	1	5	6	8	7	4
7	6	8	3	9	4	2	1	5
5	1	4	2	8	7	9	3	6
8	7	1	9	4	2	5	6	3
9	5	3	7	6	1	4	8	2
6	4	2	5	3	8	7	9	1

Difficulty Level ★

WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUDET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backwords. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

CANADIAN FORESTS

Solution: 12 letters

O N T A R I O K C O L M E H C
A G U S T R E E S O D N A R G
K C N N S T U C N U A P T Y P
M R E R E L A E N I P D E R A
C O I V B L I B I D Y P T N A S
H W N F E A Q A B T I L L U S
A S O T S T C A L M S T A T A
S N A L A A I O T S U E E S S
E E R U L N L H N R A L R E S
I S A N Q E E G W I E M O O A
L T L E O S Y K U A F B B C F
A I P P I L U T A O L E L O R
R N O I R E B M I L D N R A A
C Y P R E S S R A D E C U S S
H H C E E B K C A R A M A T N

© 2009 American Media Syndication www.wonderword.com 2/12
Acadian, Alberta, Alpine, Balsam, Beech, Blue, Boreal, Cedar, Chase, Coast, Columbia, Conifer, Crowsnest, Cypress, Douglas Fir, Eaten, Estuary, Forest, Glen, Grand, Happy, Hemlock, Lake, Larch, Limber, Mite, Montana, Musquash, Oak, Ontario, Pass, Poplar, Red Pine, Ripen, Sassafras, Tamarack, Tiny, Trees, Tsuga, Tulip, Uncut, Walnut, White, Yellow
Last Friday's Answer: Percussion
To purchase THE COLLECTED WONDERWORD, Volumes 39 through 54, order online at www.WonderWordBooks.com.

©2012 Conceptis Puzzles, Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

CLASSIFIED ADS



**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT**

**INVITATION TO BID
ITB19-BECQ/DEQ-052**

SUBMISSION DATE: MARCH 06, 2019 TIME: 10:00 A.M.

**"PURCHASE OF ONE (1) CLASS "I" 2018 OR NEWER SUV, 4-DOORS,
AWD FOR THE BUREAU OF ENVIRONMENTAL COASTAL QUALITY,
DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY"**

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENSION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ ELI D. CABRERA
ADMINISTRATOR, BECQ

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAM
DIRECTOR, PROC. & SUPPLY

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT**

**INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB19-DCCA/CCDF-048 (A-B)**

SUBMISSION DATE: MARCH 01, 2019 TIME: 09:00 A.M.

**"PURCHASE OF ONE (1) CLASS "I" VEHICLE—2018 OR NEWER MODEL (A)
AND ONE (1) CLASS "F" PICK-UP TRUCK 4X4 (B) FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF
COMMUNITY AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS, CHILD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT FUND"**

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENSION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ ROBERT H. HUNTER
SECRETARY, DCCA

/S/ VIVIAN M. LIZAMA
ACTING DIRECTOR, P&S

**Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Commonwealth Judiciary Administrative Office
Guma' Hustisia, Iimwal Aweeew, House of Justice
P.O. Box 502165, Saipan MP 96950
Telephone (670) 236-9770**

**INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB19-JUDICIARY-01**

SUBMISSION DATE: February 28, 2019 TIME: 10:00 A.M.

**"NEW 2019–2020 VEHICLES
(5 Door All Wheel Drive Utility Vehicle)"**

The Commonwealth Judiciary ("Judiciary") is soliciting invitation for bids for new 2019-2020 vehicles (5 Door All Wheel Drive Utility Vehicle).

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE CASHIER WINDOW, WINDOW #1, LOCATED AT THE FRONT OF GUMA' HUSTISIA / IIMWAL AWEEWE / HOUSE OF JUSTICE, SUSUPE, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTIONS 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/s/ ALEXANDRO C. CASTRO
JUDICIARY EXPENDITURE AUTHORITY

/s/ JOHN T. VILLAGOMEZ
JUDICIARY PROCUREMENT OFFICER

**Where your heart and
mind go to work**

****JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT**
Business Operations Coordinator**

This position is responsible for the daily operations of the NMI Chapter office. Work includes financial tracking, asset management, special events and volunteer engagement.

For a full description of this position and application please visit our website at:
<http://bit.ly/RedcrossJobSaipan>

The American Red Cross is a nonprofit organization that employs growth and development, team spirit, competitive salaries and a comprehensive benefits package.

American Red Cross

We are proud to be an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer M/F/D/V

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT**

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
RFP NO.: RFP19-OPD-047**

SUBMISSION DATE: MARCH 01, 2019 TIME: 09:00 A.M.

**"DATA STORAGE, MANAGEMENT, AND SHARING SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT
FOR THE OFFICE OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT (OPD)"**

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENSION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS PROJECT CAN BE MADE TO ERIN DERINGTON BY EMAIL TO erind.opd@gmail.com, NO LATER THAN THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS, FEBRUARY 19, 2019.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ KODEP OGUMORO-ULUDONG
DIRECTOR, OPD

/S/ VIVIAN M. LIZAMA
ACTING DIRECTOR, P&S

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT**

**INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB19-OVR-050**

SUBMISSION DATE: MARCH 06, 2019 TIME: 09:00 A.M.

**"PURCHASE OF ONE (1) CLASS "F" PICK-UP TRUCK,
4WD, FOUR-FULL-DOORS FOR THE OFFICE
OF VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION"**

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENSION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ ARLENE KAY A.YAMAGATA
DIRECTOR OF OVR

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAM
DIRECTOR OF P&S

WHATZIT Solution: Smash hit

RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED LINER ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a complete 5-day run of liner ads, for as low as \$15 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS

- 3-Liner \$15
- 5-Liner \$24

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the Saipan Tribune are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

WHATZIT?

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.



Mickelson two holes away from 5th Pebble Beach win

PEBBLE BEACH, Calif.—Phil Mickelson has gotten the better of Father Time and weathered Mother Nature's most vicious punches for four days at one of his better haunts on the PGA Tour.

He just couldn't beat Sunday's setting sun.

Mickelson needs to get through one more day and two more holes if he's to make tournament history and further enhance his World Golf Hall of Fame career. He is atop the leaderboard as the AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am is scheduled to resume at 8 a.m. local time Monday (11 a.m. ET) after Crosby Weather, as it's known in these parts, crashed the annual bash on the Monterey Peninsula.

Playing in the final group Sunday for the second time in three starts this year, Mickelson turned a three-shot deficit at dawn into a three-shot lead at day's end with spectacular play on a chilly and windy day. With his game on point, the only thing that bothered Mickelson was the decision to halt play.

"It's probably a good thing for us," said Mickelson, who pleaded his case to continue despite darkness enveloping the course. "But I wanted to try to finish tonight because I'm playing well."

"It's not over. We've got to finish it off, so I don't want to jump the gun and look ahead. I've got two difficult holes coming up. I love playing this tournament, but I think the postponement is a good omen because of the first time I won here was '98. We had a three-month suspension of the tournament, came back and finished the final round, and I had my first victory here."

Mickelson stood at 18 under through 70 holes and was three shots clear of Paul Casey and Scott Stallings. Mickelson stood at 18 under through 70 holes and was three shots clear of Paul Casey and Scott Stallings. Casey has a 3-foot par putt remaining on 16 before he and Mickelson make their way to the tee at the par-3 17th and then play the par-5 18th to complete the round.

Stallings finished off his round with a 6-under-par 66 to vault up the leaderboard and give himself an outside chance of victory.

Machado, Yankees may have discussed \$220M deal

N E W YORK—The New York Yankees might be back in the running for Manny Machado. At least that was the initial impression given by former New York Mets general manager Jim Duquette.

In an article posted to SNY's website, Duquette says he's heard talk that the Yankees and Machado have had discussions



AP
Phil Mickelson follows his drive from the fourth tee of the Pebble Beach Golf Links during the final round of the AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am golf tournament Sunday, Feb. 10, 2019, in Pebble Beach, Calif.

But the tournament is in Mickelson's hands. Trailing Casey by three shots, Lefty did most everything right as he made six birdies in the 16 holes he finished and didn't put a bogey on his card.

Less than two years from his 50th birthday, the old man did his best work by the sea as he birdied from 10 feet on the fourth that overlooks Carmel Bay, then scored from a foot on the ninth and from 11 feet on the 10th, the two holes facing Stillwater Cove.

He also birdied from 6 feet on the second, 7 feet on the 13th and 6 feet on the 14th.

"I've had six birdies out there on a tough golf course, so there's been a lot of good things, a lot of good putts that have gone in," Mickelson said.

There was little good concerning the weather. Mickelson and other A-listers such as Jordan Spieth, Dustin Johnson, Bill Murray and Wayne Gretzky shared top billing this week with Crosby Weather, the moniker paying homage to Bing Crosby, who founded the

tournament and turned it into his own yearly clambake.

The changing nature of the elements is a part of the event's character, and in the first three rounds, professionals, celebrities and amateurs were confronted with mist, rain, heavy winds and bone-rattling temps. On Sunday, hail made an appearance. After overnight storms forced a one-hour delay to the start of the final round, the worst weather of the week blew in, and a hail storm left a blanket of white pebbles on Pebble Beach. Kessler Karain, Patrick Reed's caddie, made a hail angel on the 14th fairway.

Players eventually came off the course and there was a two-hour delay. Upon their return, a glorious sun bathed the course in relative warmth.

Upon his return Monday, Mickelson will try to polish off his 44th victory on the PGA Tour. Mickelson, who won this event in 1998, 2005, 2007 and 2012, looks to tie Mark O'Meara for most tournament victories. And if he wins, it will be his 14th PGA

Tour title in California, which would tie him with Tiger Woods and Billy Casper.

A victory also would validate all the work Mickelson has done to stave off the onslaught of age and remain relevant in the game he loves. He has increased his work in the gym to build his strength and explosiveness. He had a biomechanics study done and looked at the kinematic sequence of his swing to pinpoint his strengths and weaknesses. After hiring a nutritionist, he is staunchly adhering to a new diet, which is as tough as a two-way breaking putt at Augusta National for a man who rarely said no to any food offering.

On Saturday, he made the cut for the 500th time in his Tour career. On Monday, Casey said he'll be hard pressed to keep Mickelson from his 44th title.

"There's still a glimmer," said Casey, who was even-par Sunday before play was halted. "I need to do something special. And obviously I need a mistake. But very good attitude. I dug deep. I was going out there to play my best."

Nonetheless it indicates there's been some talk between the Yankees and Machado.

This follows Yankees owner Hal Steinbrenner's Thursday claim that he believed New York was still in the running to sign either Machado or Bryce Harper. While the Yankees had never formally been counted out, prior reports had them on the fringe at best because they were never interested in

matching either player's lofty target price.

Machado was reportedly aiming for a \$300 million contract when the offseason started, but it's starting to look like it will fall much closer to \$200 million.

Toronto Blue Jays pitcher Marcus Stroman is seemingly convinced the speculated offer would be enough to lure Machado back to the AL East.

Refreshed Woods takes on Riviera for Augusta buildup



There were only five tournaments set in stone on Tiger Woods' schedule when he arrived in The Bahamas for December's Hero World Challenge.

Tasked with playing enough to stay sharp and peak at the right times while not overdoing it, Woods still was trying to navigate his new compact order of events, in which he might play as few as 15 or 16 events. He played 18 official events last year.

Four majors were a given. The only other sure thing at that time?

This week's Genesis Open at Riviera Country Club, where in 1992 Woods made his first PGA Tour start as a 16-year-old amateur.

Fourteen major victories and 80 Tour titles later, Woods is the tournament host and returned to Riviera last year for his first appearance since 2006. No one could have predicted a missed cut in 2018 would create a domino effect that helped set the stage for his epic comeback season culminating with a win at East Lake in the Tour Championship.

Woods wasn't satisfied after just two rounds in L.A., and he wanted to see if his newly fused spine could handle two full tournaments

in back-to-back weeks. So he added the Valspar Championship the week before the Arnold Palmer Invitational.

Keep in mind there were still tons of skepticism then. When Woods finished T-2 and just one shot shy of a playoff at Valspar, it sent a clear message.

Woods wasn't done yet.

We all know that now, so the expectations from Woods and fans alike are totally different this week in southern California.

"This year I have an understanding of what I can and cannot do," Woods said.

"Finishing the year the way I did in the playoffs, hitting it like I did was great because I finally built it to a place where I can take a little time off and I know what I'll have when I come back.

I don't have to go looking, searching for something, so that helps a lot."

Telling comments coming off a T-20 finish at the Farmers Insurance Open in January at Torrey Pines, where Woods wasn't as sharp as he hoped but still put together a solid result without much help from the putter.

The fact Woods knows what his game is now all about means he's spent the past few weeks sharpening and honing his swing. It's not the big soul-searching process it was at times last year.

New-look 76ers romp past LeBron, Lakers



PHILADELPHIA (AP)—Magic Johnson and LeBron James have captured eight NBA titles between them. With Johnson in the stands and James on the court, the Philadelphia 76ers showed off their own championship potential.

Joel Embiid had 37 points and 14 rebounds, Tobias Harris scored 22 points in his second game with Philadelphia, and the new-look 76ers beat James and the Los Angeles Lakers 143-120 on Sunday.

JJ Redick added 21 points for the Sixers, who have won two straight after acquiring Harris and four others at Thursday's trade deadline. Jimmy Butler finished with 15 points in front of a packed Philly crowd that brought a playoff-like feel to the nationally televised game.

"The East better watch out," said Johnson, the Lakers president who made the trip to Philly for the game. "This is a stacked team."

Kyle Kuzma led the Lakers with 39 points while James had 18 points, 10 rebounds and nine assists.

James was facing Philadelphia for the first time since the Sixers made a big push to sign the superstar as a free agent last summer. He and Kuzma both missed the last matchup with Philly on Jan. 29, which the Sixers won 121-105.

"I thought they were going to be very good anyway before they made any moves, before the season even started," James said. "And they've made a bunch of moves to improve their club."

Fresh off a buzzer-beating win at Boston, the Lakers shot nearly 60 percent and scored 40 points in the first quarter. But fueled by Redick's four-point play, the Sixers closed the first half on a 19-6 run to take a 76-67 lead into halftime.

Embiid, who was questionable to play because of gastroenteritis, led the charge with 25 points in the first half after lighting up the Lakers for 28 in the teams' first matchup.

"I must not be a big LA fan," said Embiid, who had his league-leading 23rd game with at least 30 points and 10 rebounds. "It's fun. I've been more consistent against both LA teams."

Philadelphia's lead ballooned to 109-94 at the end of the third quarter after T.J. McConnell's 3-pointer in the closing seconds. The Sixers ran away with the game from there while gleeful fans chanted "Kobe's better" at James.

"We had too many breakdowns," James said. "Way too many breakdowns."

Warriors 120, Heat 118

In Oakland, DeMarcus Cousins made two tie-breaking free throws after retrieving a Kevin Durant missed 3-pointer with 5.4 seconds remaining Sunday night, allowing the Golden State Warriors to survive a 3-point-shooting assault by the Miami Heat for a close victory.

The game marked the final Oakland appearance by Heat standout Dwyane Wade, who contributed 10



points, six rebounds and nine assists to a remarkable Heat effort.

Kevin Durant led all scorers with

39 points. Klay Thompson backed Durant with 29 and Stephen Curry had 25 for Golden State, which won

its fourth straight.

Josh Richardson recorded season-highs in points with 37 and 3-point-

Magic rips Pelicans over Davis trade talks

LOS ANGELES—The Los Angeles Lakers wanted to acquire Anthony Davis in a trade with the New Orleans Pelicans.

But no matter what the Lakers offered, it wasn't good enough for the Pelicans, and when asked if the negotiations were in good faith, Lakers President Magic Johnson said, "No."

Johnson addressed reporters before the Lakers played a road game in Philadelphia on Sunday, which the 76ers won 143-120. The Pelicans didn't move Davis before Thursday's trade deadline, preferring to wait until the summer before dealing him.

"Basically, at the end of the day what happened happened, and we knew that when we first started," Johnson said. "Hey, it is what it is."

Johnson also said the Lakers' plans this summer have not changed just because they didn't acquire Davis for the rest of this season.

"It's a great class (of free agents), and we just want to get one of them," Johnson said.

The Lakers' pursuit of Davis has become a sensitive topic for the NBA, the Pelicans and the Lakers with theories that the Pelicans refused to trade Davis to the Lakers just to disrupt chemistry inside the Los Angeles locker room because

so many of their young players were discussed as trade pieces.

"Quit making this about thinking these guys are babies because that's what you're treating them like," Johnson said. "They're professionals. All of them. And this is how this league works. They know it. I know it. That's how it goes. So, we've got to move forward, and we are moving forward. . . ."

"There's a good side of the business that we get paid to be professional basketball players. Then, there's deals like this."

Johnson had no sympathy for Lakers players such as Brandon Ingram, Lonzo Ball and Kyle Kuzma who were mentioned in trade talks.

"We get paid to do a job," Johnson said. "We're all professionals. I've been in this league for 40 years. A lot of players got traded on Thursday and Wednesday. Guess what's going to happen next year? A lot of players are going to get traded. Some players will stay home. I talked to our guys. They're in a good place. That's all that matters."

"We're headed toward hopefully getting into the playoffs. That's a part of it. . . . We've got young guys. They're going to be affected by it. That's the nature of our business. . . . 'I'm not the guy who, 'Oh, I'm

going to up and hug guys.' I'm not that dude. And they're ready to go, so let's not belabor that point, like all of a sudden everybody's upset over maybe being traded, maybe not."

Two weeks ago, Davis' agent, Rich Paul of Klutch Sports, informed the Pelicans that his client will not sign an extension with the team and wanted a trade. Paul also told ESPN the same thing on the record, resulting in a \$50,000 fine for Davis "for violating a collectively bargained rule prohibiting players or their representatives from making public trade demands."

Paul also represents Lakers star LeBron James, who earlier this season said it would "amazing" and "incredible" to play alongside Davis. Shortly after those comments, the league sent team executives a memo reminding them of the league's tampering policy.

In a statement shortly after Davis' trade request became public, the Pelicans released a statement, saying, "We will do this on our terms and our timeline. One that makes the most sense for our team and it will not be dictated by those outside of our organization. We have also requested the League to strictly enforce the tampering rules associated with this transaction."

AP Philadelphia 76ers' Joel Embiid, left, and Jimmy Butler, right, challenge the shot of Los Angeles Lakers' Brandon Ingram, center, during the first half of an NBA basketball game, Sunday, Feb. 10, 2019, in Philadelphia.

ers with weight for the Heat, who were coming off a narrow loss at Sacramento on Friday.

Dion Waiters also had season-bests in points (24) and 3-pointers (six) for the Heat, the only team in the league with a winning record on the road and a losing record at home.

Kings 117, Suns 104

In Sacramento, rookie Marvin Bagley III scored a career-high 32 points as the Kings coasted past Phoenix.

Bagley shot 10 of 15 from the field and 11 of 13 from the free-throw line to eclipse his previous high of 24 points, which he recorded Monday in Sacramento's win over San Antonio. Buddy Hield chipped in 18 points while Bogdan Bogdanovic added 14 for the Kings.

Devin Booker collected 27 points and eight rebounds in his return from a two-game absence due to a hamstring injury for the Suns, who have lost 14 in a row.

Mavericks 102, Trail Blazers 101

In Dallas, rookie sensation Luka Doncic scored 28 points, with five coming in the decisive final 2:27, to lead Dallas past visiting Portland.

Doncic scored 13 points in the fourth quarter, a stanza in which Dallas trailed 96-81 with 10:43 to play. Portland built that lead on Damian Lillard's incredible 21-point third quarter, all of which came in the final 5:19 of the period after Dallas came back from a 10-point halftime deficit to tie the game at 67.

Newcomer Tim Hardaway Jr., acquired in the deal with the New York Knicks along with Kristaps Porzingis, scored 24 points on 9-for-18 shooting. Dwight Powell had 13 points off the bench and Dorian Finney-Smith added 11 points and six rebounds.

Magic 124, Hawks 108

In Atlanta, center Nikola Vucevic scored 19 points to lead seven Orlando players in double figures in a win over the Hawks.

Vucevic was 8 of 13 from the field and added 12 rebounds. The Magic also got 18 points from Terrence Ross, 17 each from Jonathan Isaac and Evan Fournier, 14 points from D.J. Augustin and 12 from Aaron Gordon, who played despite a sore back. Wes Iwundu added 10. Augustin played a flawless floor game, handing out 10 assists and not committing a turnover.

Alex Len scored 16 points off the bench to lead Atlanta, and John Collins and Kevin Huerter added 15 apiece. Collins, playing despite a sore right knee, added four rebounds for the Hawks, who have lost three straight overall and five consecutive home games.

Federer motivated, targets 9th Wimbledon crown

GENEVA—Shaking off his defeat in the Australian Open Roger Federer says he's "motivated and looking forward to the future" with a tilt at a ninth Wimbledon title uppermost in his mind.

After his last 16 loss to Greek young gun Stefanos Tsitsipas in Melbourne last month, the Swiss 20-time Grand Slam champion was quick to brush aside suggestions it was the beginning of the end.

In Geneva on Friday to launch the third edition of the Laver Cup, Federer mapped out his goals for the season with the hunger of a man carrying half his 37 years.

"Wimbledon obviously, also now Dubai, Indian Wells and Miami."

"I really would like to make a good season start, maybe that could launch the clay season and Wimbledon but I think Wimbledon yes, the US Open and after also the Laver Cup and the World Tour Finals at the end of the year."

He said his failure to defend his Australian Open title changed nothing and his aim was the same as always - to beat Rafael Nadal and Novak Djokovic.

"I continue my career...I'm motivated, I feel good and I'm looking forward to the future."

"The goal is always to have a level of play high enough to beat Rafa and Djoko and as soon as it is so high so you can play against them and maybe win, that means that the classification will normally follow."

Djokovic, who dispatched Nadal in two sets to win in Melbourne, tops the rankings from Nadal with Federer slipping from third to sixth.

"For me, the classification at 37 years is not anymore the pri-



Switzerland's Roger Federer reaches for a backhand return to Britain's Daniel Evans during their second round match at the Australian Open tennis championships in Melbourne, Australia, Wednesday, Jan. 16, 2019. AP

ority," shrugged the Swiss great.

For the September 20-22 Laver Cup, Bjorn Borg captains Europe with John McEnroe in charge of Team World.

Federer is hoping his compatriot Stan Wawrinka plays.

"We won the Olympic title together (in Beijing, 2008). With a bit of luck we can be reunited again in Geneva."

Meanwhile, despite the loss of world No. 1 Naomi Osaka through injury, six of the women's top 10 players descend on Doha this week for the Qatar Open.

Australian Open champion—and the sport's new

superstar—Osaka withdrew last week due to a back injury, leaving a big hole to fill for tournament organizers, which they have done with a strong field including three former world number ones.

Simona Halep is now the top seed and the Romanian will be joined by the Czech Republic's Karolina Pliskova and Germany's Angelique Kerber as the top seeds.

All three were formerly at the top of the women's rankings, Halep only being ousted by Osaka last month after Melbourne.

Halep, now ranked three in the world, and Kerber, sixth, are both Grand Slam winners. Pliskova, the world number five, is a former US Open finalist.

Kerber is the first of these to arrive in Doha as she seeks to erase the memory of her crushing straight sets fourth round defeat against Danielle Collins in Australia.

"It's a tough draw [in Doha]," Kerber told reporters on Sunday. "But this is a challenge, and I'm always looking forward to coming here."

All three top seeds have a good record in Qatar.

Halep and Kerber met in the 2014 final, with the Romanian winning, and Pliskova won the title two years ago.

World number seven Elina Svitolina of Ukraine—a wildcard replacement for—is the fourth seed.

Also in Doha from the top 10 will be world number eight Kiki Bertens of the Netherlands and Denmark's Caroline Wozniacki, ranked tenth.

The Dane was the runner-up to Pliskova in 2017.

Svitolina said she had changed her mind about playing in Doha after initially deciding she needed more

rest after Australia where she struggled with a shoulder and neck injury.

But the 24-year-old now feels she is ready to return to the court earlier than anticipated.

"This tournament, you know, here is always tough," she said.

"Everyone wants to play, everyone wants to play well. That's why it makes it not easy at all."

The top four seeds are expected to be in action from Tuesday.

Halep and Pliskova could meet in the final in Doha, just days after the pair were set to meet against each other this weekend in the Fed Cup.



PHILADELPHIA—It seems like there is a panic brewing among Eagles fans over Nick Foles' future.

It's no longer because Foles is all but certain to be moving on, after he reportedly told the Eagles he'll pay the \$2 million to void the \$20.6 million option for the 2019 season and become a free agent.

Rather, it's the possibility that Foles could end up playing for NFC East division rivals in either the Giants or Washington.

If that happens, the Eagles would face Foles twice per season. And that seems hard to fathom for a quarterback who twice led the Eagles on playoff runs, including the Super Bowl in 2017, while replacing the injured Carson Wentz.

That's why many are hoping that the Eagles will place the franchise tag on Foles and trade him to a team of the

Column: Eagles could keep Foles through franchise tag

Eagles' choosing, rather than let Foles choose an NFL East rival as a free agent.

But that's ridiculous on a number of fronts.

For one, nothing should stop the Eagles from getting the best deal possible if they attempt to trade Foles.

Back in 2010, that didn't stop the Eagles from trading quarterback Donovan McNabb to Washington. Howie Roseman, now the Eagles' executive vice president for football operations, was the general manager then, although former head coach Andy Reid had final say over personnel decisions.

That trade didn't come back to haunt the Eagles. The Eagles moved on with Kevin Kolb, who was ultimately replaced by Michael Vick. McNabb, meanwhile, lasted one season in Washington before finishing out his career

the next season in Minnesota.

Secondly, the finances involved with placing the franchise tag on Foles, then trading him, make it a risky proposition that could easily backfire, leaving the Eagles with a \$25 million backup quarterback.

The window for teams to place the franchise tag on a player begins Feb. 19 and lasts through March 5. Teams can only assign the tag to one player, if they choose to do so at all.

That salary, which should be between \$23-\$25 million for a quarterback, would put the Eagles close to \$20 million over the projected salary cap, according to overthecap.com. They would go under the cap if Foles leaves as a free agent.

But other teams know the Eagles in that scenario wouldn't be operating from a position of strength, so why would they offer an early-

round draft choice for Foles?

If the Eagles let Foles leave as a free agent, they could wind up with a compensatory third-round pick in the 2020 draft. If they franchise, then trade, Foles, perhaps they can get a third-round pick in the upcoming draft. As it stands, the Eagles have a first-round pick at No. 25 and two second-round picks (No. 53 and No. 57), but no third-round pick.

The Eagles can also trade Foles for a player on another team, who can provide immediate help.

Those are best-case scenarios.

The worst-case scenario is that other teams would be reluctant to offer much more than a late-round draft pick, or nothing at all, and the Eagles would have to keep Foles, who would have the highest salary on the team.

That doesn't seem like it's

worth the risk in ensuring that Foles doesn't end up with the Giants or Washington.

It's easy to see why those teams would be interested in signing Foles as a free agent. The Giants have the No. 6 pick in the draft and this could be the year that they decide not to keep Eli Manning, who's due to make \$23 million this season, or about the same as what Foles might get in free agency.

But Foles, who just turned 30, is eight years younger than Manning, and Manning has taken the Giants to the playoffs just once since 2011. Foles would be an upgrade.

Even if the Giants take a quarterback with the No. 6 pick, that QB can learn from Foles before taking over in a year or two. Or if they have Foles, they can prioritize another position in the first round, such as the offensive line.

Foles would do well with

running back Saquon Barkley and wide receiver Odell Beckham Jr., and that could hurt the Eagles. But that would be true with a few other quarterbacks expected to become free agents, such as the Ravens' Joe Flacco.

For the Redskins to be interested in Foles, they would have to assume that starter Alex Smith won't be ready to return next season after breaking his leg last season, a likely scenario. Foles would be a suitable replacement there, too.

Foles would have other suitors in free agency, such as Jacksonville, which recently hired former Eagles quarterbacks coach John DeFilippo to be the offensive coordinator.

Sure, the Eagles would prefer to see Foles with the Jaguars or Miami Dolphins compared to the Giants or Washington. But maybe Foles would want to sign with one of the AFC teams anyway.

For the Eagles, that is the risk worth taking.

San Jose 1 unbeaten; Laly Four, San Jose 2 ousted

San Jose 1 is still perfect, while Laly Four and San Jose 2 have been eliminated in the 2019 Rocball League being played at the Marianas High School.

San Jose 1 is unbeaten in three games to lead the team standings in the nine-squad field, while Bumpers, Fam Bam, Teachers, and WTA are tied for second place with their identical 2-1 records. Team T.D. and VAD are ranked third with similar 1-2 marks, while Laly Four and San Jose 2 are at the bottom after failing to win a single game in three matches.

Though Laly four and San

Jose 2 have been booted out, their players can still suit up for other teams in the succeeding games.

According to Rocball founder and league organizer James Feger, this kind of system allows players to continue playing the sport and in many cases improves other teams chances to win. Squads are allowed to recruit players in the preliminary games, but not in the semis and championship matches.

Meanwhile, San Jose 1 also leads the league in aces scored with their 23 and the frontrunners are ahead, too in xunks with five, tying VAD. Team



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
The Teachers' Roque Indalecio was named Player of the Week in the 2019 Rocball League.

Kaitlyn registered 24:27 in the two-loop race to prevail against their youngest sibling Julian (27:18), while Miller recorded 25:01 to beat Brad Ruszala (26:29), Mark Chavez (27:19), Boboy Aguilar (35:04), and Robert Torres (36:42).

In the 956m race, Janet King rounded out the one-loop course in 17:83 to finish ahead of Zeno Iwami (18:29), while Alonso Acosta came in on top of the 50m event, besting Tristan Raho, Jenny Zhang, Jack Raho, and Katrina Wu.

Last weekend's Meek & Mighty Ocean Swim was a fundraiser with proceeds going to SSC swimmers that will represent the CNMI in three regional tournaments this year.

Loken and June Yu. Loken and Yu set up a Round 2 duel match against the No. 2 seed pair after outclassing Donn Dunlop and Ki Won Lee in the opening round last Saturday, 6-1, 6-4.

Daniel Kang and Ye Jin Son also prevailed in straight sets against No. 5 seed Steven Goodwin and Eubin Park, 2-6, 6-1, 10-8, to march into the quarterfinals. Goodwin and Eubin, before a tough loss in the second round, coasted past Ji Hoon Lee and Malika Miyawaki in the opener, 6-1, 6-1.

Meanwhile, No. 3 Robbie Schorr and Daniel Heo and No. 6 Sam Ryu and Jaehoon Son rounded out the quarterfinals cast. Schorr and Heo soldiered on after a 6-3, 6-3 triumph over Anthony Gregoire and Helen Kim—a 6-4, 7-6 winner over Maria Gregoire and Dain Lee in the first round. Ryu and Jaehoon also prevailed in straight sets against Hyunmin Cho in the first round, 6-4, 6-3, and remained undefeated following a 6-1, 6-3 victory versus Allan and Cory Lee to make it to the Round of 8. Corry and Allan arranged the battle for the quarterfinals slot against Ryu and Jaehoon after ousting Mayuko Arriola and Eun Been Hwang, 6-2, 7-5.

Besides the updates on the facilities and logistics, NMSA is pressed, too to give information on the funding for the event.

NMSA, during its meeting with government officials, was told that the administration of Gov. Ralph DLG Torres will need to identify first a source of revenue for which the financial aid for the Games will come from.

"The governor knows we are working on a deadline and they promise to do their best

T.D., the Teachers, and WTA are leading in the kees (five), goals (four), and jam (one) categories, respectively.

In the individual statistics, Keystone Refalopei Noresch

has scored 10 aces, while Liam Arriola, Fatima Monterubio, Kevin Kukkun, Noryanka Skerei, and Amu Itibus have two xunks each. Nick Gross leads the league with four kees, while only Bailey Spaeth has made a jam so far this season.

Another notable player in the league is the Teachers' Roque Indalecio, who was named Player of the Week for making a goal off a service. He is only the second player to make that kind of play in roccball's 36-year history. (*Saipan Tribune*)

Neymar-less PSG facing injury crisis ahead of Man United match

PARIS (AP)—Facing a rampant Manchester United side in the Champions League was already a tough enough prospect for Paris Saint-Germain.

Tuesday night's match in chilly northwest England now looks a daunting one amid an ongoing injury crisis.

PSG will be without the world's most expensive player Neymar and possibly 192-goal, all-time club

leading scorer Edinson Cavani against a revitalized United side unbeaten under its new coach Ole Gunnar Solskjaer.

Furthermore, PSG will go to United with doubts over whether key midfielder Marco Verratti should start the game, having played barely one hour on Saturday in a 1-0 win against Bordeaux after

recovering from a sprained ankle.

"It's very difficult to play when you've been injured like Marco," PSG coach Thom-

as Tuchel said. "I don't know if it's possible for him to play again at Old Trafford in three days' time. In our situation, it might be necessary."

Tuchel spoke with an air of resignation after a dull encounter in which PSG extended its lead in the French league to 13 points over second-place Lille.

"If your key players are not there, obviously it makes a difference. If Edinson is not in Manchester, then it is a big deal," Tuchel said. "There has been too much bad luck; these are players of great quality."



CHAMPIONS
LEAGUE

Cavani limped off with a thigh problem caused when he scored from the penalty spot in the 42nd minute, blasting the ball powerfully with his right foot. Moments later, he walked off before the half-time whistle was blown.

Tuchel was concerned whether Cavani will recover for the first leg of the last 16 against United.

"I don't have any good news. We need to wait. I honestly don't know (if Cavani will play)," Tuchel earlier told broadcaster Canal Plus. "Yes, it's worrying. It's not a good sign. We don't have another Edi (Cavani), we don't have another Neymar."

PSG is already without Neymar—who cost PSG 222 million euros (\$252

million) when he joined from Barcelona—for the next two months.

Verratti started against Bordeaux but looked rusty, with several passes going astray. Tuchel needs Verratti against a United midfield featuring the in-form Paul Pogba, but the 58 minutes he played may not have been enough to restore his sharpness and rhythm.

Strasbourg missed the chance to move from seventh to fifth place after losing at home to Angers 2-1, with 20-year-old striker Wilfried Kanga grabbing his first two goals in the top flight.

Amiens beat Caen 1-0 thanks to a goal from striker Moussa Konate and moved out of the relegation zone, while Caen dropped to 18th.

PACIFIC

From Page 24

cilities and equipment. NMSA is hoping to get the facilities ready for the Mini Games by July next year.

Meanwhile, NMSA, on behalf of the host country, also needs to submit a status report on its preparations for the Mini Games in a meeting in Fiji next month.

Besides the updates on the facilities and logistics, NMSA is pressed, too to give information on the funding for the event.

NMSA, during its meeting with government officials, was told that the administration of Gov. Ralph DLG Torres will need to identify first a source of revenue for which the financial aid for the Games will come from.

"The governor knows we are working on a deadline and they promise to do their best



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

The Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield is one of the major facilities that will undergo repair for Saipan's hosting of the 2021 Pacific Mini Games.

to meet it so we can submit our status report in the March meeting in Fiji," White said.

NMSA had already presented to the governor the proposed budget for the Mini

Games, but declined to disclose the amount. When the CNMI submitted a bid to host the Mini Games, its proposal included the estimated costs (\$1,160,000) of holding the

event on Saipan and the government may be asked to fork out \$250,000, while the rest will come from participation fees from the 22 nations and private sector sponsorships.



Mickelson two holes
away from 5th
Pebble Beach win

PAGE 20

Saipan Tribune Sports

New-look 76ers
romp past
LeBron, Lakers

PAGE 21



24 TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2019

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Favored pairs prevail

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Ssix seeded pairs lived up to expectations, while two unranked ones made it to the quarterfinal round of the mixed doubles event in the 2019 White Coconut Tennis Classic after the first weekend of games at the American Memorial Park.

No. 1 Vincent Tudela and Juncheol Hwang and No. 2 Andrew Chung and Jimin Woo remained in contention for the division



title after marching into the Round of 8 of the 29-team field. Tudela and Hwang eliminated Marivic Dunlop and Savita Sikkel, 6-1, 6-3,

See FAVORED on Page 23



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Serin Chung gets ready to serve to Yebin Shin during their girls U14 singles game in the 2019 White Coconut Tennis Classic last Saturday at the American Memorial Park courts. Serin is also playing in the mixed doubles and she and Gang Min Kim are in the quarterfinals.

Pacific Games Council wants update on '2021'

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Pacific Games Council officials will pay Saipan a visit next month to get updates on the CNMI's preparations for the 2021 Pacific Mini Games.

Northern Marianas Sports Association president Michael White, during NMSA's monthly meeting last Thursday at the American Red Cross/NMI Chapter office at the Airport Road, said PGC president Vidya Lakan and executive director Andrew



Minogue will be on Saipan in the latter part of March and will meet with local sports officials and other working groups involved in the Commonwealth's hosting of the quadrennial event. White added that the two visitors will check on the facilities that will be used for the competitions.

The Oleai Sports Complex will be the main hub of the Mini Games and will undergo a major facelift after sustaining massive damage from Super Typhoon Yutu late last year. NMSA executive director Tony Rogolfoi is coordinating with the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the CNMI public assistance office to secure funding for repair work and fast-track the process. Another NMSA official, Laurie Peterka, is leading a group that is working on seeking a federal grant for the construction or improvement of sports fa-

See PACIFIC on Page 23

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Saipan Swim Club's Jinnosuke Suzuki and Kento Akimaru had a photo finish in last Sat-



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Kento Akimaru leads Jinnosuke Suzuki as they run to the finish line of last Saturday's 2019 SSC Meek & Mighty Ocean Swim.

Close races in SSC Meek & Mighty

former.

Akimaru sprinted to the shore/finish line and timed in at 26:01—just a second ahead

of Jinnosuke—to rule the longest race (2,250m) race of the competition and take the top honors in the men's division.

In the women's category, Sophia Gauran and Jinju Thompson tied for first place after completing the three-loop

course with identical times of 30:59.

Lennosuke Suzuki and Anthony Camacho-Deleon Guerrero were also in a deadlock for third place after posting

See CLOSE on Page 23



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Participants in last Saturday's 2019 SSC Meek & Mighty Ocean Swim pose for a photo before heading into the waters off Kanoa Resort.